



SOCCER ACTION

**JUGOSLOVENSKA
SCENA: 14**

VIVA ITALIA: 10

**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ: 14**

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBP0351

Vol. 11, No. 32

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 1986

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Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

\$1.40 recommended price only

Michaela makes his move

By
LES
SHORROCK

Harry Michaela has thrown down the gauntlet in his bid to buy Sydney Olympic. He's given the Olympic committee until late this week to agree to his demands or he'll call a meeting of members to get their backing.

Michaela, head of HM Productions, the company which packages soccer for SBS TV, last week sent a letter to Olympic which read, in part: "I have considered the comments made by your committee two weeks ago and I stand

by the proposition that was contained in my company's initial letter to you which outlined my plans to buy the club.

"I ask that your committee considers that proposition within the next seven days, failing which I will cause the requisitioning of members of Sydney Olympic with a view to putting my proposition directly to them.

"I want to own 51 per cent of the club."

It had to happen in soccer, of course; the only surprise is that it took so long. With the success of the Sydney Swans and all the hoopla that has surrounded their transfer to the Harbour City, it was inevitable that some enterprising entrepreneur/soccer fan would want to

emulate Dr Geoffrey Edelsten and buy his own soccer club.

Michaela is a long-time fervent supporter of Sydney Olympic, and sees himself as the "angel" who will guide it out of its financial problems and set it on the road to riches. "Sydney Olympic should be the No 1 Greek club in Australia," says Michaela, "but to do that it must have the right people behind it."

However, the present Olympic management doesn't see it in those terms.

"Rather than one person buying the club outright, it would be more feasible for the club to float a public company," says Olympic president, Tom Doumanis. "That way, members and supporters could buy shares, and I, my-

self, would buy shares at the drop of a hat, because I believe that Sydney Olympic has more potential than any other club in Australia."

Talking about Michaela's bid to buy Olympic "lock, stock and barrel", Doumanis says: "Olympic only continues to exist because of the generosity and goodwill of Sydney's Greek community which has put in perhaps \$6 million over the past 25 years as the club went through bankruptcy, relegation, riots and elation. That community would not be willing to hand over its club to a private owner."

"Also, Olympic is a company limited by guarantee and, if it was dissolved or wound up, its proceeds would have to be handed over to a like institu-

tion, under our articles of incorporation."

Doumanis added that he would welcome Michaela's involvement as a shareholder, and that the sale of shares would generate funds which could be used for professional promotion of the club and the game generally.

But Michaela poo-pooes the Doumanis scenario. "The club would find it difficult to obtain public listing," he says. "That's because its financial situation and recent record of lack of profitability wouldn't adequately justify a 2.5 million share issue."

"Furthermore, it is completely unrealistic to continue to lead members to believe that there is a financially rewarding alternative when it transparently is not available. Michaela then went on to attack Doumanis' comments about the support Olympic has received in the past from the Greek community.

"All I can say is if that's the case then what has been wrong with the club administration, because the club isn't better off?"

"Somebody, somewhere must stop pushing their own barrow and start working for the good of the club."

"In the past I've been the major sponsor of the club without any personal gain... After all, I don't sell olives or pasta or anything of that sort. I've done it because I still feel that soccer can be the number one sport in this country, but it needs the right people behind it."

"There are plenty of wealthy Greek businessmen out there, but these days you can't expect successful businessmen to give up their time for nothing."

"Whatever happens, I'll still be there next year, backing Sydney Olympic heart and soul in some capacity."

Croatia's still on course

Melbourne Croatia maintained its fight to stay in the National League by downing Brisbane City last weekend.

The result was made even more important as Croatia's closest rival, Newcastle Rosebud United, beat Canterbury.

Big-spending Adelaide Hellas has missed the cut, a major blow to the club's members and supporters.

The 14 teams for next year's NSL will be chosen according to a formula which awards points for crowd support and standings in this and past seasons. Points total so far (crowd figures used are not official):

90. Syd Croatia
89.1 Syd Hakoah
82.9 B. Juventus
82.7 Heidelberg
79.8 Marconi
71.4 JUST
71.2 Olympic
66.3 SM-Hellas
63.2 Ad. Juve
59.2 St George
58.0 Preston M
54.8 APIA
53.7 George Cro
49.9 Melb Croat
42.4 Newcastle
42.3 Bris. Lions
40.6 Ad Hellas
37.8 Blacktown
37.1 Wollongong
26.8 Canberra
24.6 Inter Mon
24.0 Bris City
20.4 Green Gully
19.1 Canterbury

SUPERBOY!

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

He's big, he's got plenty of "dig" and he's got dazzling skills. He's one of the most exciting teenage talents ever to emerge on the National League scene and he's only 16.

George Cross' junior giant John Markovski (pictured) has been performing near super-human feats in 1986.

With just one NSL youth game under his belt he was tossed straight into the senior squad by coach John Gardiner and has emerged as one of the best players at a club with a great chance of playing in this year's Southern Division finals series.

Markovski has had a huge year. He's starred for the Victorian youth team, made his National League debut, then made his Australian youth team debut against Czechoslovakia.

Right now, Markovski is wowing them in Sydney at the national under 16 titles. That's right, the under 16 titles.

It hardly seems fair. Pity the other states.

He won't come straight out and say it, but playing at under 16 level is a breeze for this technically gifted and athletic youngster.

"Yeah, sometimes it comes easy but there are times when it's hard. My biggest problem probably is maintaining my concentration. I've got used to being tightly marked now. If I'm playing in central midfield, I just switch out wide and take my marker with me. Hopefully that leaves room for my team mates to work in."

An established NSWL fullback was told earlier this season to hit Markovski hard and hit him

early. He did. Markovski didn't flinch.

"If they hit me hard I just hit them back. It doesn't bother me."

It's difficult to believe that last season he was playing in the under 16s at George Cross. It's also hard to believe that coach Vic Dalgleish didn't select Markovski in the Australian under 16 team that played in the World Championships in China last year.

Imagine unleashing Markovski on an unsuspecting world. It's a thought well worth savoring.

Right now, he's the most sought-after property in Australian soccer. It's no secret that he hasn't signed a contract with George Cross and he knows that if he wants to, he can command a huge signing-on fee for next season.

But will he leave George?

"Money's not important to me at this stage of my life but being well coached is. John Gardiner and Jimmy Rooney are great coaches. They're really good at showing you what to do. It's as simple as that."

"If George Cross stays in the National League I might stay with the club. And I'm really confident that we can be in the 14-team NSL next year."

And that might be the key to unravelling the mystery of Markovski's whereabouts in 1987.



'He can lift the ball over your head, he can drag it past you, he can play it short or he can play it long. I'm very impressed with his technique and his maturity. He picks up things so quickly it's not funny'

— George Cross coach John Gardiner

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GREENS RD (Opposite SABA)

Croydon slams VSF and demands \$4500

Croydon is demanding \$4500 in compensation from the VSF for the loss of its home game against the troubled Melbourne Hungaria two weeks ago and Croydon secretary Peter Benson this week mounted a scathing attack on the federation.

Melbourne Hungaria's failure to appear at tribunal hearings has forced its

By
**CRAIG
MACKENZIE**

team into limbo over the past fortnight. Its matches against Croydon at Croydon Park and Caulfield at J.T. Gray Reserve were not played. The VSF awarded 1-0 wins to Croydon and Caulfield.

Melbourne claims that it wasn't informed of the tri-

bunal hearings into matters arising from games against Morwell and Northcote earlier this season. The VSF is adamant that Melbourne was informed of the hearings and simply failed to appear.

But the wrangle has taken a new twist, one that has put the VSF and Croydon at loggerheads.

"I'm sick of the VSF. I'm sick of the way it goes about its business," said an angry

Benson.

"The media seems to think that by getting a 1-0 win and not having to play for it, Croydon has been favored by the federation. That's not the case. All our lads wanted to play against Melbourne, and by not playing that game we lost \$4500 in income."

"It's not the first time that we've fallen foul of bloody ridiculous rulings by the VSF this year. We're play-

ing a postponed league game against Fawkner at Croydon Park tonight (Wednesday) when we asked the federation to put the game off until the end of the league season."

That match was postponed due to Croydon's clash with Adelaide Hellas at Hindmarsh Stadium on Sunday, June 1.

"The VSF wanted us to play Fawkner at Ross Re-

serve at first, and we had to push hard to get this night game going, even though we'll lose money on it."

"The Australian Floodlighting Company has given us a guarantee that the \$1000 we've spent with them to give us 1500 extra kilowatts on our lights is more than adequate for a night game. But try telling that to the federation. They (the federation) made us switch the lights on the other night

so that the referee of tonight's game could decide whether or not they were suitable. That little exercise cost us \$500. We told the federation that we had a written guarantee from the company involved but, as usual, that wasn't good enough for them."

"It's just another example of the inconsiderate way Croydon's been treated this year and, frankly, I've had a enough of the VSF!"

Jail for Greek fans; Robson, Souness return

The Greek parliament has approved legislation to jail rowdy soccer fans for up to two years.

Under the new law, spectators can be imprisoned and fined for cursing or fighting in the stands, interrupting play, carrying dangerous objects, exploding fireworks or "insulting the honor of others."

★★★

Graeme Souness, who announced his retirement from international football after captaining Scotland in the World Cup finals, has changed his mind.

★★★

The player-manager of Scottish Premier Division side Glasgow Rangers last week told new Scotland boss Andy Roxburgh that he wanted to return to international football.

However, the 33-year-old midfielder will not be able to play in the European championship clash with Bulgaria this month because of his heavy commitments with Rangers.

★★★

However, Kenny Dalglish, Souness' former teammate at Liverpool, and Scotland's most capped footballer, will be able to play, having declared his availability last week.

★★★

The 35-year-old Liverpool player-manager, who won his 100th cap against Romania in March, was forced to call off from the World Cup finals in Mexico because of a knee injury incurred in the English FA Cup final.

Overseas round-up By PAUL MOON

Roxburgh, who names his first squad since becoming manager three weeks ago, said: "Neither Graeme nor Kenny is a long-term selection, but I don't want to rule out anyone who can be a help to us, especially players of their class and experience."

★★★

The Italian League's appeals board last weekend revoked the demotion of Udinese and Lazio from Serie A as previously ordered as punishment in a match-fixing scandal.

★★★

However, it penalised both teams by nine points for the 1986-87 season.

★★★

The board also acquitted Lamberto Mazza, the former president of Udinese, who had been previously given a five-year disqualification after a hearing into allegations that he tried to fix some matches last season.

★★★

England and Manchester United captain Bryan Robson made his comeback last weekend, three weeks ahead of schedule after a shoulder operation.

★★★

The 29-year-old midfielder star hopes to lead England in its friendly against Sweden next week.

★★★

Goalkeeper Helmut Duckadam, hero of Steaua Bucharest's European Champions' Cup Final triumph earlier this year, has suffered a severe arm injury as the result of a hunting accident and will be out of the game for approximately six months.

★★★

Former Hungarian international goalkeeper Attila Kovacs, who was originally barred for 10 years in 1984 for taking bribes, has had his sentence reduced to two years and now is free to resume his career.

★★★

Players have been warned by Scotland's solicitor general that they could face criminal charges for on-field assaults.

★★★

The solicitor general said that if players behaved in a criminal manner, they would be held accountable under criminal law.

★★★

Barcelona has registered England's Gary Lineker and Wales' Mark Hughes as its two foreign players permitted to appear in the Spanish First Di-

vision. Scot Steve Archibald will spend the 1988-89 season with Barcelona's nursery team Atletico in the Second Division, but the future of West Germany's Bernd Schuster has yet to be determined.

★★★

A knee injury has forced West German international defender Bernd Forster into retirement. He won 33 caps.

★★★

The South American Confederation will launch a new tournament, known as the Super Cup, this December. It will fea-

ture the 12 previous winners of the Libertadores Cup.

★★★

Latest moves on a very active European transfer market include:

★★★

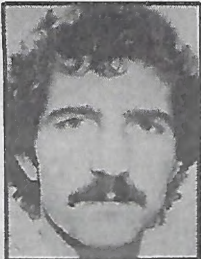
Georgi Dimitrov: Sredets Sofia to St Etienne; Antal Nagy: Honved Budapest to Nancy; Peter Hainich: Gyor Raba Eto to Nancy; Erwin Vanderbergh: Anderlecht to Olimpie Lille; Leal Branco: Fluminense to Brescia; Morten Olsen: Anderlecht to Cor-

logne; Eduardo Acevedo: Defensor Montevideo to Real Murcia; Fleming Poulson: Aarhus to Real Madrid; Antoni Zubizarreta: Athletic Bilbao to Barcelona and Julio Salinas: Athletic Bilbao to Athletic Madrid.

★★★

Centre-half Dave Watson has joined Everton in a club record \$1.1 million (\$2.48 million) transfer from Norwich.

Watson, capped six times for England, once was on the books of Liverpool.



● Graeme Souness



● Bryan Robson

Kids flock to Cosmos



● Jimmy Rooney and Tim White have been teaching youngsters the finer points of indoor soccer at the Cosmos Indoor Soccer Centre over the past week and boys from as far away as Kyneton have attended the clinics. The picture above gives you an idea of the

spacious nature of the Cosmos Centre in Green's Road, Dandenong, one of the finest indoor soccer centres in Victoria.

Over 70 youngsters attended the clinics, the first part of a two-week school holiday package that offers great giveaways and a chance to learn all about the fastest growing sport in Australia. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Mexican connection may force Havelange to quit

Following the World Cup finals, and all that was seen there in close-up by the world's travelling press, FIFA president Joao Havelange came under much criticism and indeed attack for the suspect way in which the finals were run and how Mexico's guernsey as host nation had been got.

But the errors fired at FIFA and Havelange were made mostly of rubber. Insufficient hard evidence and the constraints of libel laws left even the most crusading of commentators short of cannon fodder.

Now a hard-hitting television program, "World in Action", made by Britain's Granada Television, has gone deeper — or certainly deep enough to illuminate some of the tangible reasons for the suspicions.

The program is due to be seen in Australia though I cannot tell you where or when. SBS did bid for it but it was snapped up by another Australian network, not known to me.

The investigative current affairs program was seen in Britain the day after the World Cup final.

What the "World in Action" team had dug up will make intriguing viewing and, by the way, points to the real possibility that Havelange will retire as FIFA head by about 1990.

At the core of the web of intrigue is Havelange and his associations with two powerful Mexicans: one Emilio Azcarra and Guillermo Canedo.

Canedo, as many of us know, is a FIFA vice-president, was head of the Mexican arm of the World Cup Organising Committee (it was his young son who drew the lots when the draw was made for the finals) and had been president of the Mexican Federation when the Cup first was held in Mexico in 1978.

But he is also number two and public front man to Azcarra, a powerful money-laden entrepreneur who owns and heads the giant Televisa corporation which handled worldwide television coverage of the World Cup.

But Azcarra has other interests, including the vast STN Spanish language television network in the US, the Azteca Stadium and a string of hotels.

His newest venture is setting up an expansive Spanish language television network in Central and South America, called Univision, and this is where accusations pointed at Havelange came in.

The ageing FIFA chief, it was speculated, is a major shareholder in the Brazilian consortium negotiating to buy its way into Azcarra's new venture.

Havelange, who runs a vast transport business in Brazil, has denied this although he did say there was no reason why a future business involvement in Azcarra's empire should be ruled out.

Of course, on the face of it, there is no reason why Havelange should not conduct business with whoever he likes. But soccer, like politics, is public property and any apparent conflict of interest (when it is FIFA and Havelange who have to make decisions regarding choice of World Cup venues and choice of telecasters) will always raise suspicions.



LES MURRAY

Another interesting item raised by the "World in Action" report was the suggestion that Havelange had deep involvement in a Brazilian insurance company which had put in an 18 percent bid for the World Cup insurance.

Havelange at first tried to parry the accusation and then admitted to it.

But most interesting of all was the curiosity of those inflated admission prices for World Cup matches in Mexico.

It is almost legend now how Mexico's poor cruelly were denied access to the games which would have given them scant joy and diversion from their misery. The cheapest tickets to a series of group matches (tickets to individual games were not possible) cost \$100 when the average unskilled Mexican earns about \$3.50 per day.

As we saw on television, many of the stadiums were left half empty, something which most curiously didn't seem to greatly worry the organisers. Said Guillermo Canedo who, remember, works for the prime telecaster Televisa: "Well, if people want access to games, they always have TV."

And there was another intriguing knot in the web.

The publicity and promotion of the World Cup was in the hands of TSL, a Swiss-based company controlled by the huge Adidas empire.

And Adidas was one of the major sponsors of the World Cup. In the current issue of the London-based "World Soccer" magazine, correspondent Iain Macleod speculates that Havelange's business dealings may well lead to his resignation of the FIFA presidency within four years. And it would make sense.

Given Havelange's utterings, it is not entirely unlikely that he will get commercially involved in television and Azcarra's Latin American network.

And if Brazil gets to host the 1994 World Cup, as is being hotly tipped at the moment, how would it look if the television rights were given to the Azcarra-Havelange network with Havelange still FIFA president?

Hence the conclusion that by the time the television rights are allocated for the 1994 World Cup, about 1990, Havelange will quit because of an apparent conflict of interest.

Portuguese dump 22

The Portuguese F.A. last weekend dropped a bombshell when it omitted all 22 members of Portugal's World Cup finals squad from the 40-man party to train for a European Championship qualifier against Sweden in October.

The world Cup players were dumped after 14 of them made themselves unavailable for selection in support of the other eight who were banned after a bitter feud in Mexico over World Cup bonuses.

The eight, including veteran goalkeeper and national captain Manuel Bento and Benfica midfielder dymano Carlos Manuel, were banned in July for their part in a strike on the eve of the Mexico finals which undermined the Portuguese squad's preparations.

New national team manager Ruy Seabra was shocked by the rebellion as he prepares for his first match after replacing Jose Torres, a legend in Portuguese soccer.



SOCCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress Pty. Ltd., Incorporated in NSW, a Division of Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 628E, Melbourne 3001.

Distributed in Victoria by Magdiss Pty. Ltd., 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000; in SA by John Fairfax and Sons Ltd; in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000; in NSW, Queensland and WA by Network Distribution Company, 54 Park Street, Sydney 2000.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Allan Taylor, Market Media Services, 79 McLaren St, Adelaide 5000. Phone: 223 6620 or 223 6344.

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Paula Parker
Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000.

Printer and Publisher: L.J. Shaw
38 Granville Grove, Mt Eliza, Victoria 3090.
Printed by Waverley Offset (03) 560 5111.
Proprietor: Newspress, a division of Syme Media Pty. Ltd., of 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne.

"Soccer Action" regrets that it is not possible for it to verify information other than that conveyed in editorial content of the publication. Although "Soccer Action" uses its best endeavours to ensure the accuracy of everything it publishes, the Fair Trading Act 1985 requires "Soccer Action" to disclaim any belief in the truth of falsity of information which is supplied to it and which is published in other than editorial content.

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NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED 2 (Naumov 62nd, Ingham 72nd) **CANTBURY 0** at Adamstown Oval. Crowd: 1,350.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling 8 — Cavanah 6, Bannion 6, Owens 7, Garland 6 — Naumov 7, McQuinn 7, Grabtree 6, Maier 6. **CANTBURY**: Barker 7 — Akoutas 6, Svinos 6, Radman 6, Hantzis 7 — Zaimi 8, Kalogeras 6, Godzik 7, Fernatis 7 — Borges 7, Zinic 7. Coach: Dam Kapetanovic.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Crabtree (N), 5. Ingham (N), 4. Zaimi (C), 3. Goslin (N), 2. Zinic (C), 1. Owens (N).

SYDNEY CROATIA 4 (Arnold 8th, 53rd, Jun 12th, Savor 36th) **BLACKTOWN 0** at Croatia Sports Centre. Crowd: 6,375.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Watson 7 — Rezo 8 (Dragievic 60th), M Kovacic 8, Rumora 7 (A Kovacic 63rd), Jennings 8 — Clinch 8, Savor 8, Arnold 9 — Junn, Lamond 6, Petkovic 8. Coach: Vedran Rozic.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare 6 — Knight 7, Willis 7, Denyer 8, Northam 7 — Ainsworth 7, Kay 8, Sandy 7, Swarpe 46th, 6). G Byrne 7 (Quarney 63rd) — Carroll 7, Thornthwaite 6. Coach: Casey de Bruin.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Arnold (SC), 5. Petkovic (SC), 4. Savor (SC), 3. Kay (B), 2. Denyer (B), 1. Clinch (SC).

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST 3 (Ricoy 32nd, Moffit 64 and 67) **INTER MONARO 1** (Titulas 43) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 685.

BUDAPEST: Greedy 8 — Sken 8, Ratcliffe 9, M O'Shea 7, R O'Shea 7 — Orszagh 7 (Moffit 61st, 9), Ricoy 8, J O'Shea 8 — Petkovski 7, Koczka 7, Fletcher 8. Coach: Frank Arak.

MONARO: Hoszowski 6 — Tullawa 6 (Underwood 80), Titlas 6, Ambrosio 6, Walsh 4 — Wotherpoon 6, Wilox 7, Djordjevic 5, Giampolo 4 — Brennan 4 (D Addano 88), Perovic 4. Coaches: Steve Hoszowski and Harry Williams.

Ametco Travel award: 6. Moffit, 5. Ratcliffe, 4. Fletcher, 3. Ricoy, 2. J O'Shea, 1. Sken (all Budapest).

CANBERRA CITY 0 **SYDNEY HAKOAH 1** (Saad 32nd) at Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 701.

CANBERRA CITY: Franken 8 — Dunn 8, Harkins 7, Cant, Mazz 8 — Sermanni 7, Hamilton 6, Murray 6 (Junn 57th), Palacios 7 — Bryant 7, Lemeza 7. Coach: Steve Bryant.

SYDNEY HAKOAH: Hughes 7 — Robertson 6, O'Connor 6, Hooker 6, DeKorngy 8 — Watson 6, Barnes 6, Soumess 74th, McCulloch 7 — Saad 7, Kosmina 6, Lee 6. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Franken (C), 5. Hughes (SH), 4. Dunn (C), 3. Cant (C), 2. DeKorngy (SH), 1. McCulloch (SH).

APIA 0 **MARCONI 2** (Gunning 6th, Jankovics 60th) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 266.

APIA: Pezzano 6 — Stewart 7, Bozanic 7, Bertogna 7, Brown 6 — Bundalo 6, Hristodoulou 6, Lorens 7, Butler 7 —

NSL DETAILS

Baran 6 (Morosello 53rd, 5), Kousas 6 (Dounis 34th, sent off 37th) Coach: Rale Rasic.

MARCONI: Jan 7 — Carter 7, Henderson 6, Sterrey 7, Wheatley 7 — Gray 7, Tredinnick 8, Gunning 6 (Jankovics 46th, 6) — Lowe 7, Brown 7, El Al 7. Coach: Les Schenflug.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Tredinnick (M), 5. Lowe (M), 4. Lorens (A), 3. Wheatley (M), 2. Bozanic (A), 1. Gray (M).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Soper 78th) **WOLLONGONG CITY 2** (Giraldi 5th, Brodnik 90th) at Pratten Park. Crowd: 3,500.

OLYMPIC: Meier 8 — Rogers 6, Coady 6, Dakos 8, Spanoudakis 5 (Zervas 73rd) — Phillips 5, Estavillo 8, Johnstone 6 — Soper 7, Theodorakopoulos (in) Brandt, Kalantzis 6. Coach: Manfred Schaefer.

WOLLONGONG: Young 8 — Green 7, Chibby 9, Vlietstra 8, Morlando 7 — Cokley 6 (Kotamandis 78th), Gaffney 7, Stefanovski 8, Giraldi 8 — Brodnik 7, Easthorpe 6. Coach: John Fleming.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Rade Stefanovski (W), 5. Meier (SO), 4. Giraldi (WC), 3. Estavillo (SO), 2. Vlietstra (WC), 1. Chibby (WC).

FOOTSCRAY JUST 1 **HEIDELBERG 0** at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: 4,500 (estimate).

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Nikotic 7 — R. Barjaktarevic 9, Vukcevic 7, Kanc 7, Petrovski 8 (Botzovski 71st, Lujt 78th) — Curovic 8, Kanesoula 6 (Riches 78th), Marley 7, Lujt 7. Coach: Drago Sekularic.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 9 — Mackie 8, Selemidis 8, Hunter 8, Pappas 8 — Kanesoula 6 (Riches 78th), Marley 7, Lujt 7. Coach: Drago Sekularic.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Rade Stefanovski (W), 5. Meier (SO), 4. Giraldi (WC), 3. Estavillo (SO), 2. Vlietstra (WC), 1. Chibby (WC).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Abrahams 1st, 88th) **BRISBANE CITY 1** (McIntosh 0, 23rd) at Olympic Park No. 1 Ground. Crowd: 1,294.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje 7 — Talajic 7, McIntosh 5, Hannah 6, Redmond 4 — Biskic 6, Campbell 3, Cristaldo 5 (Gojevic 57th) — Gajula 6 (Markovac 57th), Abrahams 6, Lewis 6. Coach: Terry Hennessy.

BRISBANE CITY: Harrison 7 — Fabrizio 7, Vasquez 7, Perry 8, Archer 6 — Reis 8, Mengotti 7, Catalano 6 (Card half time 8) — Cooper 7, Whine 7, Milosevic 7. Coach: Billy Wilkinson.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Reis (BC), 5. Perry (BC), 4. Talajic (MC), 3. Fabrizio (BC), 2. Milosevic (BC), 1. Runje (MC).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Andriotis 26th, 73rd) **ADELAIDE HELLAS 1** (Konstandopoulos 57th) at Middle Park. Crowd: 2,252.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Laumets 7 — McDowall 7 — Russell 6, Blair 7, Anezakis 6, Postecoglou 8 — Halford 7, Miranda 6, Egan 7 — Andriotis 7, Craine 8. Coach: John Margaris.

ADELAIDE HELLAS: Sprodt 7 — Honeyman 8 — Brown 6, Yankovic 6, Price 6 (Pier 5), Marou 7 (Pier 65th), Panagis 6, Scott 8 — Konstandopoulos 7, Ward 7, Hristodoulou 8. Coach: Edmund Krefz.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Craine (SMH), 5. Honeyman (AH), 4. Scott (AH), 3. Postecoglou (SMH), 2. Hristodoulou (AH), 1. McDowall (SMH).

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0 **PRESTON-MAKEDONIA 0** at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 5,246.

GEORGE CROSS: Keogh 7 — Richardson 8 — James 9, Parton 7, Campbell 8 — Bain 7, Faulkner 7, McLaren 6 (sent off 82nd), Markovski 7 (Mitten 85th) — Glider 8, Edwards 8. Coach: John Gardiner.

MAKEDONIA: Traianes 7 — McLennan 7, Opasinis 7, Dobson 8, Iliakis 7 — Silikas 6 (van Egmond 60th), Roodhouse 8, Lane 8, Heys 8 — Smith 6, Cole 7. Coach: Bill Murray.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. James (SGC), 5. Richardson (SGC), 4. Heys (Mak), 3. Glider (SGC), 2. Dobson (Mak), 1. Edwards (SGC).

ADELAIDE CITY 3 (Melta 44th, penalty 85th, Villani 83rd) **GREEN GULLY 1** (Ward 35th) at Olympic Sportsfield. Crowd: 1,671.

ADELAIDE CITY: Juvenius, McNally 7 — Shillabeer 6, Nyshokus 7, Flounders 8, Tobin 7 — Melta 9, Santrac 6 (Maxwell 46th 8), Villani 7 — Mullen 8, Vidmar 8, Wide 5. Coach: Zoran Zoric.

GREEN GULLY: Denys 7 — Hogben 6, Fraser 8, Cannell 8, Quigley 6, Theodosopoulos 6, Carter 7, McLelland 7 — Ward 8, Cumming 8. Coach: Gus Macdonald.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Melta (ACJ), 5. Flounders (ACJ), 4. Cumming (GGA), 3. Fraser (GGA), 2. Mullen (ACJ), 1. Vidmar (ACJ).

BRISBANE LIONS 4 (Morton 51st, Wright penalty 76th, 90th, Ogden 85th) **BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1** (Zinni 32nd) at Richmond. Crowd: 1,171.

LIONS: Evans 7 — R. Stewart 9, Jackson 8, Liddell 9, Niven 8 — Anderson 7, J. Stewart 8, Ogden 8 — Druery 8 (Richardson 80th), Wright 8, Morton 8. Coach: Col Bennett.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Banovic 8 — Palatides 5, Lewis 6, brown 6, Campbell 8 — Wade 6, Petersen 5, Patterson 6, Cullen 7 — Zinni 7, Incantalupo 6. Coach: Len McKendry.

Best six for Ametco Travel award: 6. Morton (Lions), 5. Liddell (Lions), 4. R. Stewart (Lions), 3. Banovic (Juv), 2. Jackson (Lions), 1. Wright (Lions).

Ansett.

OASL Southern Division

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
F'SCRAY JUST	10	7	3	27	22	27
BRUNSWICK JUVE	10	5	5	34	21	25
HEIDELBERG	8	8	4	32	22	24
ADEL JUVE	9	6	5	30	19	24
GEO. CROSS	7	10	3	22	15	24
S.M. Hellas	9	5	6	25	17	23
Makedonia	6	9	5	22	19	21
Lions	7	4	9	25	18	18
Ad. Hellas	7	3	10	22	17	17
M. Croatia	5	5	10	20	30	15
Bris. City	3	6	11	18	42	12
G. Gully	2	6	12	15	33	10

OASL Northern Division

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
S. CROATIA	12	4	4	37	16	28
SYDN. HAKOAH	8	8	4	36	23	24
MARCONI	8	7	5	32	21	23
OLYMPIC	7	9	4	30	22	23
ST. GEORGE	9	5	6	29	28	23
Castle	8	6	6	34	31	22
APIA Lhardt	7	6	7	20	23	20
Blacktown	8	4	8	24	33	20
Wollongong	7	5	8	23	25	19
Canberra	5	6	9	21	23	16
Canterbury	2	11	17	15	35	11
Inter Monaro	3	7	12	16	39	11

AMETCO AWARD

● Ametco Travel will award to the best player of the NSL a trip to Europe, flying Thai International.

- Leading votegeters:
56. Selemidis (H)
 55. Slater (B)
 54. Hunter (H)
 51. Dobson (Mak)
 49. Estavillo (SO), Postecoglou (SMH)
 46. Stolic (JUST), Cumming (GG)
 45. Bertogna (APIA) Jackson (BL)
 44. Franken (Can)
 43. Lowe (Marc)
 42. Wheatley (Mare), Wade (B.Juve)
 41. Arnold (S.Cro), Hannah (Mel.Cr.)
 40. Mullen (A.C.), Palacios (Can), Hristodoulou (Ad.H.)
 39. Honeyman (Ad.H.)
 38. Butler (APIA), Zaimi (CM), Ingham (NR)
 37. Fraser (GG), Melta (AC), James (SGC)
 36. Baran (APIA)
 35. Craine (SMH)
 34. Ogden (BL)
 33. Liddell (BL), Vlietstra (W), Flounders (A.C.)
 32. Glider (SGC), Budini (IM), Cavanah (NR), Zrilic (CM)
 31. McDowall (SMH)
 30. E. Campbell (Juve), Rozic (S. Cro), Giraldi (W)
 29. Winn (IM), Nikitovic (JUST), Yzeendorn (B. Juv.), Sken (St.G.), J. Dunn (Can) Odzakov (S.Cr.), Kalantzis (S.O.)
 27. Farina (S.H.), Tapai (JUST), Harrison (BC)
 26. Raskolulou (S.O.), Gojevic (M.Cro)
 25. Kosmina (S.C.), Ollerenshaw (St.G.), Russell (SMH).

With striker Laurie Abrahams starting to show the form Hennessy said he was capable of, and with George Hannah marshalling his defence superbly, Croatia should come back home with at least a point.

The South Melbourne Hellas has provided a fairytale debut for young striker Chris Andriotis, who joined the club earlier this year from Victorian League Third Division side Clifton Hill.

Ken Murphy, Stuart Stevenson and Steve Tassios all on the injured list, coach John Margaritis had to turn to Andriotis, and the boy didn't fail him.

South easily should account for doomed Green Gully this Sunday, but that won't perturb Gully's genial coach Gus Macleod.

Macleod already is planning Green Gully's campaign for next year's Victorian State League, and says he is happy about the number of players willing to stay with the club.

Sunshine George Cross had its biggest ever NSL crowd, over 5000 last week for the goalless draw against Preston Makedonia, but what must have pleased coach John Gardiner far more than the size of the crowd was the impressive

debut of ex-Wrexham striker Andy Edwards.

Edwards arrived with an impressive English Football League record as a goalscorer, but his debut was delayed by a training injury.

George should win in Brisbane against the doomed City this Sunday to stave off South's challenge for another week.

In the Northern Division, Newcastle Rosebud, back on the winning trail again, has an excellent chance of leapfrogging back into the five with a win over bottom-placed Inter-Monaro which has only pride left to play for.

Newcastle's nearest final five rivals — Marconi, Sydney Olympic and St. George — all face crucial games.

Olympic, struggling desperately to pull out of a slump that has become a headlong drive, faces confident Marconi at Marconi Stadium, and St. George takes on uncompromising Sydney Hakoah at home.

Blacktown's faint hopes of making the final five probably went down the drain with its 4-0 thrashing at the hands of Sydney Croatia, but it could still play a part in APIA-Lhardt's destiny this Sunday, when the two meet at the Gable Stadium.

It's now or never for Georgie and Olympic

Les Shorrock



● Action from last Sunday's big clash at Schintler Reserve. Ljubo Petrovski (right) of Footscray JUST, crashes into Heidelberg midfielder John Kanesoula. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Preston Makedonia's final five chance is fading away, Sunshine George Cross and South Melbourne Hellas are locked in a desperate struggle for fifth spot, whilst almost unbelievably, Sydney Olympic could miss the play-offs.

Those were the features of last weekend's incident-packed NSL round 20.

Three players were sent off, two players were hit by stones, a referee was kicked and had to have police protection and a coach was ordered off and then kicked by a spectator as the competition reached fever pitch.

Sydney Olympic, the club that TV entrepreneur Harry Michaels wants to buy has picked up only one point in its last five outings, and now is in a position of needing to win both its remaining matches to stay in the five.

Whilst Sydney Croatia has virtually clinched top spot in the Northern Division, it's a cliff-hanger for the remaining four places, with only four points separating seven clubs.

In the Southern Division, Footscray JUST, despite having now gone six games without a win, still remains on top, as its nearest challengers, Brunswick Juventus and Heidelberg, continue to falter.

This Sunday, Footscray meets Preston Makedonia at Schintler Reserve, where it is unbeaten this season, and the Blues should kick off Makedonia's last five final hopes.

Makedonia's cause won't have been helped by the sending off last week of strongman Ian Dobson. Makedonia's whole defence revolves around Dobson who, until last week, was challenging the leaders in the Ametco Travel best player award.

In another equally important tussle, Brunswick Juventus takes on Adelaide Juventus at Olympic Park on the rebound from a resounding loss to Lions in Brisbane.

Although the return of a fully fit Andrew Zinni has been a bonus, Juve's lack of punch up front must be giving coach Len McKendry nightmares.

He can't be looking forward to Sunday's game and the one after, against South Melbourne Hellas at Middle Park, with great relief.

Adelaide Juventus is one of the classiest footballing outfits in the league, and should come away from Olympic Park with at least a point.

Brisbane Lions' big win over Juventus has given them just a faint flicker of hope for 1987.

This week's games

This week's NSL matches, with likely winners in capitals:

- SUNDAY**
WOLLONGONG CITY v Canberra City at Wollongong Showground. 3pm.
MARCONI v Sydney Olympic at Marconi Stadium. 3pm.
Blacktown City v APIA-Lhardt (draw) at Gable Stadium. 3pm.
Canterbury-Marrickville v SYDNEY CROATIA at Arlington Oval. 3pm.
Inter-Monaro v NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD at Seiffert Oval. 3pm.
St. George v SYDNEY HAKOAH at St. George Stadium. 3pm.
Brisbane City v SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS at Spencer Park. 3pm.
Adelaide Hellas v Melbourne Croatia (draw) at Hindmarsh Stadium. 2.30pm.
Green Gully v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS at Gully Reserve. 3pm.
Brunswick-Juventus v Adelaide City (draw) at Olympic Park. 3pm.
HEIDELBERG v Brisbane Lions at Olympic Village. 3pm.
FOOTSCRAY JUST v Preston Makedonia at Schintler Reserve. 3pm.

The game made history as far as Lions were concerned. It was the first time in their 10 years of NSL membership that they had won four consecutive games. But it's oddness they won't make it five on the trot, facing a classy and determined Heidelberg at Olympic Village.

Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey has performed miracles in this, probably his last season with the Bergers, and along the way has converted ex-Socceroo midfielder Theo Selemidis into a sweeper who is now paired with Alan Hunter in the centre of the best defence in the NSL.

But that big win by Lions last week spent the end of the NSL road for big spender Adelaide Hellas. Its loss at Middle Park against South Melbourne Hellas left it in fourth bottom spot, and as Sunday it faces a desperate Melbourne Croatia at Hindmarsh.

Croatia has shown a resurgence since coach Terry Hennessy arrived back from the US, and it is hoped of making the cut for the 14-team NSL next year.

This weekend's youth games: Brighton v Melbourne Croatia at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

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at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

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NATIONAL LEAGUE UNDER-21
 PLAYER OF THE YEAR
 \$250 TO THE WINNER

49. Postecoglou (SMH)
40. Hristodoulou (Ad.H)
39. Ingham (NR)
29. Dunn (Can)
28. Kalantzis (S.O.)
27. Tapai (JUST)
26. Ollerenshaw (St. G)
21. Tsolakis (H)
19. Koczka (St. G), Jones (NR), D. Hunter (B.L.)
17. Mazis (Can)
16. Moffit (St. G), Spink (JUST), Douglas (GG), Lamond (S.Cr)
12. Palatides (Juve), Tobin (Ad.Juv)
11. Vidmar, Nisicoli (Ad.Juv)

YOUTH LEAGUE

Victorian Youth League:					
Footscray 1 Heidelberg 0					
Pawker 0 Brunswick 1					
Nunawading City 1 Green Gully 5					
South Melbourne 4 Brighton 3					
Melb Croatia 1 Frankston Pines 0					
Sunshine GC 1 Preston Mak 3					

South Melbourne	14	4	2	45	19	32
Sunshine GC	14	3	3	37	14	31

at 3 pm, Green Gully v South Melbourne at 1 pm, Wicks Juve v Nunawading City

Record for Lions, hiding for Juve

Man of the match:
JIM MORTON
(Bris. Lions)



Ricky Rosso

will be a tragedy if Lions are axed.

"It's got to be one of the top games of the year. Not too many sides will score four in the second half, let alone against the national champion," said Lions coach Col Bennett.

"After that performance I wish we were in the top five. We would go close to winning it."

Although Juventus scored first, it was largely against the run of play and once Lions drew level early in the second half, there was no doubting they would go on with the job.

And spearheading the attack which Juventus failed to contain was Scottish import Jim Morton.

After months of waiting, Brisbane Lions officials are finally seeing the best of the well-credentialed Morton.

Morton showed flashes of his brilliance when he was among the best for Queensland in their 1-0 win over NSW in June, but he turned it in on the second half as Lions tore apart the national champion.

The former St. Johnstone and Scotland "B" player was a class above Juventus right-back Joe Palatisides as Morton weaved his way in and out down the left flank. So effective and dangerous was Morton looking, that Bennett's halftime talk largely centred around: "When we get the ball, give it to Jimmy."

Morton came to Australia with a fine pedigree but has only started to live up to that in recent weeks. For one thing he finally has had a clear run from injuries, but more importantly he has got over the tiredness resulting from playing a double season.

Morton came to Lions only weeks before the end of the Scottish season which means he has been playing and training constantly for more than 12 months.

But he was sharper than any other player on the field in this match and scored one goal and won a penalty which resulted in another.

After a good opening period during which Lions keeper Wayne Evans kept his side in the match, Juventus faded in the hot Queensland conditions and it was a surprise when Andrew Zinni scored in the 32nd minute. The goal came from a corner, given away by Lions after a silly misunderstanding between Evans and Alan Niven.

From the corner Cullen knocked a low ball to the near-post where Zinni turned, beat his marker and slotted a shot under Evans.

A minute later Fabio Incarlati could have sealed the game for the visitors when he ran unmarked into the box to meet a Mike Petersen cross. But rather than head the ball home he fired a volley which skewed wide.

Six minutes into the break Morton scored with a shot that rebounded from the cross bar on to the goaling. Well-placed linesman Roger Marshall had no hesitation in signalling a goal to referee Richard Loren.

Although Juventus coach Len McKendry shook his head in disbelief, the absence of complaints from the Juventus defence indicated the linesman's decision had been correct.

A penalty 25 minutes later swung the game. And although McKendry was again shaking his head, there were no doubts Yaka Banovic fouled Morton as the Scotsman streaked into the box after a good ball from Alan Niven.

Although Morton and Niven are the regular penalty takers, a pre-match decision gave Denny Wright the pressure. But the 21-year-old was the calmest in the stadium as he sent Banovic to the right and slotted his shot home to the left.

A 25-metre pilderiver from John Ogden and the goal from close-in by Wright completed the fighting display from the Brisbane team which now hopes to win its last two games and sneak its way into the elite and for Queensland, elusive, 14.

"You could not play against this team without physical contact — they wanted to play Australian rules with a round ball," he said.

"We can play better but we need to meet them in dry conditions. In the wet they make up an extra two metres with their sliding."

Maclaren, Dobson in 'friendly' brawl



Laurie Schwab

Geo. Cross 0
Makedonia 0

Venue: Chaplin Reserve.
Crowd: 5248.
Referee: Dennis Voutsinas

Send-offs: Dobson (Mak), Maclaren (SGC) 82nd.
Ian Dobson of Makedonia and Don Maclaren of George Cross were the best of friends after being sent off in the 82nd minute, agreeing that their brawl had been a "scoreless draw", just like the match.

But Dobson was wondering why he had had to accompany Maclaren off the field.

After all, it was Maclaren who turned and pounced on Dobson, fists flailing, after Dobson had felled him from behind with a foul tackle. The proper decision, one feels, would have been for Maclaren to be sent off and Dobson to be shown the yellow card, but then, with the profusion of players milling around, trying to break up the fight, referee Dennis Voutsinas perhaps found it difficult to count exactly how many punches — if any — were scoring blows on either side.

The SBS footage however, may well be considered as a possible contribution to World Championship Wrestling (do they still call it that?).

Tyrone James was magnificent in George Cross's defence, making every clearance look oh, so easy due to his faultless positioning.

But Maclaren rated Andy Edwards George Cross's best player. Edwards, the former Wrexham striker who has taken until now to play his first full match because he has been hampered by a leg injury, could have scored twice in the first 10 minutes.

Subsequently, he continued to lay the ball off to advantage on the ground and in the air.

He looks like a clone of Carl Gilder who played his usual reliable game up front, but he's faster than Gilder.

Some have described him as another Alan Evans — a compliment indeed, as Evans, a one-time Liverpool striker, had a glorious career with South Melbourne Hellas.

There was a long period during which Makedonia held sway in midfield, due to the sterling creative play of Graham Heys and Sean Lane and the defensive contribution of Ian Roodhouse. But the long and the short of it was that the two defences were simply too efficient to make it a forward's game.

For Dobson, Opasinis and Co. there was no looking back after those precarious first 10 minutes. Having survived two shots from Edwards and one from John Markovski, the Makedonia defenders were entitled to feel like the proverbial cats with many lives in reserve.

John Campelj, who played an excellent match defensively, then made the wrong choice when he elected to shoot instead of passing to unmarked Markovski on the left.

A sidelight to the match was the clash of the super-kids — 16-year-old Markovski and 17-year-old George Silfka who stood in for suspended Ron Campbell.

Their first confrontation came in the 10th minute, with Markovski getting the better of Silfka in a surge down the left flank. Again they locked horns in the 28th minute but this time Markovski had Campelj's help in dispossessing Silfka in the corner.

Steve Smith, who has been so dangerous since his comeback after injury, got his one and only scoring chance in the 34th minute, but his downward header from across by Gary Cole was well saved by Sean Keogh.

Cole tried one himself, and it bounced awkwardly in front of Keogh before going just wide

Man of the match:
TYRONE JAMES
(Geo. Cross)

of the post to the goalkeeper's relief.

A player who gets little recognition is George Cross midfielder Roger Bala. He's not flashy but he's a real team man, slotting into the gaps left by advancing defenders, always available when needed, like the Lone Ranger riding the range.

Apart from all that, he almost scored with a near-post shot that was well taken by Philip Trainades.

Four minutes before half time, Lane and Richardson ran a long way towards the ball, threatening a collision of an intensity that would rival the astronomical "big bang".

Lane came out of it with the ball, leaving Richardson in his wake. Three Makedonia forwards were up in the firing line as Lane crossed the ball but James, positioned among them, oozed class as he swept the ball away.

Wick van Egmond replaced Silfka in the 60th minute and there was a humorous crack from the sideline as a fan, obviously of Makedonian persuasion, remarked to Markovski: "We pay you \$600 next year."

One would assume he meant \$600 a week. It is no secret that Makedonia, as well as JUST, is hell-bent on signing Markovski.

Markovski just smiled and continued to play, until he was replaced by Noel Mitten five minutes from the end.

With 20 minutes left, Makedonia sweeper Con Opasinis stormed forward and his cross from the left bounced off the far post, into the six-yard box. Smith reacted appropriately, but in doing so, he slipped on the wet surface and stumbled, before he could reach the ball and put it into the empty net.

Campelj figured in two match-saving plays in the final few minutes. First he held off Smith in the six-yard box, then he headed a Lane cross away from Smith and van Egmond.

GUS MACLEOD ASSAULTED!

Ad. Juventus 3
Green Gully 1

Scorers: Melita 44th, penalty 85th, Villani 83rd (A.J.); Ward 36th (G.G.).
Venue: Olympic Sports Field.
Crowd: 1,671.
Referee: Jim Rossie 7.

SA proved an inhospitable place for Green Gully coach Gus MacLeod last Sunday.

The approachable MacLeod removed his coat to bask in the Adelaide sunshine on the last day of winter, but had hardly settled into his plastic chair when referee Jim Rossie warned him about making derogatory remarks about the match officials.

MacLeod accepted the warning but could not contain his remarks and by the 38th minute was told to move off the arena.

The coach complied, but as he made his way through the grandstand enclosure was attacked from behind by a supporter.

MacLeod confirmed later that he had been kicked, but said he would not lay charges against his assailant.

When he vacated his touchline vantage point Green Gully was a goal up through Danny Ward and threatening to severely embarrass favored Juventus.

Gully's relaxed style contrasted sharply with Juventus's penalty approach as the home side obviously found the pres-

sure of expectations hard to bear.

A penalty by Sergio Melita brought the score level after luckless Les Carter handled a corner kick from Charley Villani.

Juventus coach Zoran Matic introduced Steve Maxwell for Adrian Santrac after the interval and moved Joe Mullen back into the midfield.

Maxwell had an immediate influence on proceedings as he set up a chance for Villani and then brought a fine save from veteran Gully goalkeeper Lou Denny.

But just when it seemed that Tommy Cumming, Scott Fraser, Stuart Cannell, Carter and Danny Ward had all done enough to earn a shock draw, Juventus struck with two goals in three minutes.

And it was young midfielder Aurelio Vidmar, who created both goals with telling passes. Somehow it appeared that this was Vidmar's way of gaining retribution for some of the heavy treatment he received earlier from unsympathetic opponents.

With just seven minutes left Vidmar found Villani who scored the ball high into the Gully net and two minutes later Vidmar switched play to the right where Melita slid an an-

Allan Crisp



Man of the match:
SERGIO MELITA
(Ad. Juventus)

gled driver past the despairing Denny.

MacLeod said he was pleased with his team's performance for the first 80 minutes.

"It was just a lapse of concentration for the last 10 minutes which cost us the game — up until then we had been doing very well," he said.

"The effort is there from the boys but we are just lacking a clinical finisher."

Matic said the slippery conditions and Green Gully's aggressive tackling evened up the match.

"You could not play against this team without physical contact — they wanted to play Australian rules with a round ball," he said.

"We can play better but we need to meet them in dry conditions. In the wet they make up an extra two metres with their sliding."

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Another broken leg for Nick Theodorakopoulos

Syd Olympic 1
Wollongong 2

Venue: Pratten Park.
Crowd: 3,500.
Referee: G. Power 9.
Caution: Giraldi (WC)
Goals: Giraldi 5th, Brodnik 90th (WC); Soper 75th (SO).

Nick Theodorakopoulos broke his leg in the opening minutes of this game against Wollongong City.

Olympic's young striker was in full flight as the ball was floated into the Wollongong penalty area but Warwick Young plucked the ball out of the air leaving Theodorakopoulos to brush past then slump to the ground, falling awkwardly.

As Young was preparing to send his kick towards centre field he was asked by the fallen Olympic player for assistance. Play was stopped and the unfortunate player was carried off on a stretcher.

This is the second time Theodorakopoulos has suffered a fracture and the second time it has happened against Wollongong.

As it turned out, Olympic had very little to cheer about. Apart from the unfortunate accident which saw Theodorakopoulos leave the field, the home team struggled all day and never got to grips with this fast, strong and determined



Alex Vesic

outfit from the South Coast.

Vicente Estavillo, Gary Meier and Tony Dakos were the only players in this Olympic side who would hold their heads high after being beaten.

Wollongong took the lead after only five minutes following a break by Randall Easthorpe. He was brought down by Emanuel Spanoudakis and fouled by Rade Stefanovski from the right hand side the Olympic defence left Robert Giraldi completely unmarked at the near post to slam in a strong header under the crossbar!

A few minutes later, Theodorakopoulos was replaced by Simon Brandt.

Then came another break by the visitors as Stefanovski lobbed Coody to provide Easthorpe with an opening, but Easthorpe hit his shot from 12 metres high, wide and not so handsome.

Easthorpe and Brodnik ran away to face an Olympic defender after 34 minutes and

with Easthorpe covered it was Brodnik who broke through to face Meier, but the long arms of the Olympic custodian saved a certain goal.

Robert Giraldi was past Spanoudakis in the 45th to send a curling shot past Meier and inches wide of the post. Olympic did manage to go close after 30 minutes with Estavillo finding Chris Kalantzis and Brandt sending his header wide from a good cross by Kalantzis. But that was too little to satisfy some 3,500 spectators at Pratten Park.

Stuart Johnstone's header on the stroke of half time could have altered things a bit but he misused, sending the ball well over the bar.

Olympic came out firing on all cylinders early in the second half but its fire was easily put out by the eager Wolves defence with Chibby and Vilestra in fine touch and both full-backs, Green and Morlando, giving highly rated Soper and Kalantzis no room to move.

Wollongong almost got on to the scoresheet again after 61 minutes when Brodnik fired one from close range but a

Man of the match:
R. STEFANOVSKI
(Wollongong)

great dive by Meier kept Olympic in the hunt.

Then, without warning, Olympic struck through Soper. Brandt's clearance went over the heads of Chibby and Vilestra and Soper gave chase to job Young and make it 1-1.

Soper ran to the fence shaking his finger at the Olympic supporters behind the goalposts. It was an expertly taken goal but what followed was not the kind of stuff Olympic supporters take kindly to. Olympic committee men were none too pleased and aired their disapproval inside the Press box.

With seconds ticking away, Olympic almost snatched both points when Estavillo chipped the ball from 20 metres looking for the top far corner of the net. Warwick Young flew through the air fingertipping the ball away then, with the game almost over, Giraldi made his way past a defender then cut his cross back for Brodnik to slam home virtually a last-gasp winner.



OLYMPIC AIRWAYS NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA



SUPER-S B MOFFITT

St George 3
Inter-Monaro 1

Scorers: Riccy 32nd, Moffitt 54th, 67th (St. G.); Titilas 43rd (IM).
Venue: St. George Stadium.
Crowd: 685
Cautions: Walsh, Wotherpoon (IM)
Referee: Owens 6.

Two more points and St. George Budapest can be sure of a spot in the 1998 NSL play offs.

That is the opinion of coach Frank Arok, who also ventured his expectation that the necessary points will come from the away match in the last round against Newcastle.

One suspects, however, that Sydney Hakoah — this weekend's opponent on Budapest's home turf — would be foolish to ignore the threat posed by the Saints.

Although far from perfect in its execution, the Saints' threat to all comers was evident quite clearly against the rough and tumble style of Inter Monaro.

The clincher came in a period of six minutes in the second half, after Craig Moffitt came on as a substitute for Miklos Orszagh. At that point it was one goal each, in spite of the home team's considerable and very obvious supremacy in all departments. Within three



Peter Scott

minutes of his appearance Moffitt was on the spot to score a vital goal.

Following a corner kick from Graeme Fletcher a huge scramble, involving at least eight players ensued a couple of metres out from the Monaro goalmouth, with all and sundry kicking away at anything that moved.

Moffitt had the good fortune to connect with the ball instead of someone's shin and, hey presto, it was 2-1 to St. George.

The youngster really got the smell of blood in his nostrils after the auspicious beginning and just three minutes later pounced on a chance to plant the ball wide of Hozowski's reach.

After his appearance on the day was for only one third of the proceedings, for my money Moffitt was definitely the man of the match. He ensured a victory for Budapest which was always on the cards, but took a long time coming.

At times the match took on the appearance of a practice game, with one-way traffic towards Monaro's goal the order of the day. If it wasn't the crossbar saving the day, then it

was the uncompromising spoiling tactics of the Monaro defence putting the hometown boys off their game in the vital moments.

Nonetheless a glaringly obvious hole in Monaro's defence was constantly there, just waiting for exploitation, in the form of John Walsh, who was all at sea throughout.

If Peter Petkovski had been just a tiny bit sharper, the match could have been wrapped up a lot earlier.

In fairness, it must be pointed out that a beautiful dummy on a Fletcher cross by Petkovski did create the opportunity for Riccy to open the scoring in the 32nd minute, but sloppy Budapest defence eleven minutes later allowed Angelo Titilas to equalise with a shot from close range.

Frank Arok was pleased to state after the final whistle that "luck was our way today", but it would be unfair to give all

Man of the match:
CRAIG MOFFITT
(St. George)



Ken Kontra

Man of the match:
ALAN REIS
(Bris. City)

Melb Croatia 2
Bris City 1

Scorers: Abrahams 1st, 88th (MC); McIntosh 23rd own goal (BC).
Venue: Olympic Park No. 1 Ground.
Crowd: 1294.
Referee: Jim Fokianos 7.

Croatia, after a promising start when it scored in the first minute of play, eventually was lucky to grab the points with the winning goal being scored in the closing two minutes of the match.

A good move on the right involving Mark Talajic and Zeljko Gajula resulted in Laurie Abrahams heading home at the far post to give Croatia an early lead, and for the first 20 minutes it seemed a good Croatia win on the cards.

Brisbane City was shocked by the goal, and took a little time to settle down but then it was Croatia's turn to show signs of panic.

Croatia's defence, with the exception of young Mark Talajic looked very jittery.

Even the usually reliable George Hannah had problems with his positioning and Phil Redmond was unable to hold Dean Mileosevic.

Alan Reis, playing mostly on the right side of the midfield also gave Redmond the run around whilst Dave McIntosh contributed by scoring an own goal in the 23rd minute as Croatia's dream start turned into a nightmare.

Apart from a shaky defence, Croatia also had problems in midfield.

Vic Cristaldo showed some good touches and Josip Biskic did produce the occasional bit of magic but Jimmy Campbell was unlighted for most of the match. Altogether this midfield was not in the same class as Brisbane City's on the day.

With a bit of luck and better

finishing, City could have taken a commanding lead by half-time but Phil White and Kieran Cooper were foiled by Mirko Runje whilst Dean Mileosevic's header bounced off the crossbar so the teams turned around on level terms after 45 minutes.

Brisbane City continued to look the more impressive team after the break but the pattern of play changed when Croatia Coach Terry Hennessy brought on Steve Gojevic and Robert Markovic in the 57th minute.

Gojevic took Cristaldo's place on the left and with Markovic replacing Gajula on the right, Croatia had width, and started to stretch the Brisbane City defence.

In the 64th minute Paul Lewis tested Robert Harrison with a strong header from a Gojevic cross, and a few minutes later the same player shot over the bar from a difficult angle following a good run.

At the other end Mileosevic and Reis combined well with the latter hitting a powerful close-range volley which Runje did well to save.

In the closing minutes, Croatia, perhaps realising that its position warrants a bit more application and desperation, pushed forward and Markovic came close with a delicate chip which Harrison just managed to tip over the bar.

With 2 minutes remaining, Josip Biskic took a corner from the left, Abrahams got a touch at the near post and Brisbane City had nothing to show for its efforts at the end of the day.

Terry Hennessy was not too impressed with his teams performance, and his counterpart Billy Wilkinson could not believe how he could have lost a match that he would have been unlucky even to draw.

Lotto sticks with the Saints

Lotto in NSW has renewed its sponsorship of St. George Budapest for the 1997 season.

President of the St. George BSC social club, Alex Pongrass, revealed that the management of the major gambling game in the state has decided to extend its lucrative support for the club for at least one more year.

"We will again receive \$50,000 next year from Lotto, and they help us in many other valuable ways, too," Pongrass, one of the two initiators of the National League, together with Hakoah president Frank Lowy, told "Soccer Action" last Sunday.

The absolute life and death importance of the Lotto deal to the club was further underlined by St. George Budapest treasurer Zoltan Gyenes, who said that without the generosity of Lotto and other smaller sponsors, the famous Hungarian club probably would find it impossible to continue in National League soccer. — PETER SCOTT

Crabtree KO's Canterbury

Man of the match:
PAUL CRABTREE
(Newcastle)

Newcastle R. 2
Canterbury 0

Scorers: Naumov 62nd, Ingham 72nd.
Venue: Adamstown Oval.
Crowd: 1,350.
Cautions: Radman, Hantzis (C); McQuarrie (N).
Referee: Gordon Nicholson 7.

A strong performance in the second half by man-of-the-match Paul Crabtree paved the way for Newcastle's victory.

Crabtree continually changed defence into attack with some well directed

passes, and when Canterbury was trying to get back into the game late in the second half he broke up some promising moves with timely interceptions.

Canterbury, a much better team that its lowly position in the competition would indicate, looked the goods in the first half, and on several occasions Clint Gosling kept Newcastle in the game with some great saves.

Newcastle finally made the all important break when Ralph Maher made a dash down the right, cut inside before setting up Bobby Naumov who beat Barker with a well-directed right foot shot.

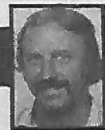
The goal took a lot of the sting out of Canterbury and Newcastle took advantage of

the situation to put the issue beyond doubt.

Ingham, who was bringing the crowd to its feet every time he got the ball, moved into the centre to collect a Naumov cross from the right Ingham controlled the ball before hitting an unstoppable right foot shot on the turn for a great goal.

Canterbury never gave up the chase and flankman Burin Zaimi looked most dangerous on several occasions combining well with fellow countrymen Peter Zrilic, but the Newcastle defence, in which Neil Owens was outstanding, held out till the end for a well-deserved victory and another two points that will take Newcastle a step closer towards a finals spot.

Joe Lanzoni



Saad end to Canberra's dream

Man of the match:
TONY FRANKEN
(Canberra City)

Canberra 0
Syd. Hakoah 1

Scorer: Saad 32nd.
Venue: Bruce Stadium.
Crowd: 701.
Cautions: Mazis (C); Kosmina (SH).
Referee: Rob Davies 7.

Canberra City, plagued by last-minute injuries, saw its dream of knocking off the Northern Division's three top teams in consecutive matches end — thanks to a 32nd minute goal by Sydney Hakoah 18-year-old front-runner Abbas Saad.

Saad's goal was a gem — one of the few highlights of a game



Peter Windsor

that rarely hit any great heights.

For Sydney Hakoah the victory shot it into second position — for Canberra it confirmed beyond doubt its exit from the National League.

And that's a pity — given that in its previous outings it had defeated the Northern Division's then first and second-placed teams Sydney Croatia and Sydney Olympic.

Against Sydney City such was the extent of Canberra's injuries that it had to draft 18-year-old Tony Lemeza and Gardner Murray for their NSL debuts.

And both acquitted themselves well — particularly the diminutive Lemeza, playing his first full game.

Their presence was vital as both Terry Byrne and Ian Gibson suffered injuries in Canberra's training session on Friday night.

But take nothing away from Sydney City — they were easily the more dangerous and creative once in sight of goal.

Canberra's hero — or one of its heroes — was once again its

young goalkeeper, Tony Franken.

Within minutes Franken's acrobatic ability had robbed Sydney City's John Kosmina of what looked to be a certain goal when Franken flung himself to his left to hold a fine Kosmina header.

Later — well into the second half — it was once more Franken who saved the day when he went backwards to pluck a fine drive from full-back John Paul DeMarigny from just under the crossbar.

But Canberra, too, had its moments — and young full back Jason Dunn and Peter Mazis, the latter young enough to still play in the youth league had the games.

So did ex-Sydney City player (and former Canberra player) Jimmy Cant, who almost completely blotted out John Kosmina.

This was a clean, fast and open game — one which in the last 20 minutes Canberra dominated.

It moved the ball about the park sweetly — but lacked penetration once near goal.

But wasn't that been the story all season?

Saad's goal was a gem — but



Abbas Saad

it followed the luckiest of let-offs for Sydney City.

Young Mazis had made a brilliant, 30 metre solo run down the left flank to end with a superb cross for young Lemeza, whose superb header luckily hit the crossbar.

Sydney City, from goalkeeper Hughes' long clearance, went straight upfield and scored.

It forced its way into Canberra's penalty area and when Tommy McCulloch's short square ball ran for Saad the youngster hammered it home — although Franken did get a touch.

Five minutes later maestro Augusto Palacios did his usual dribbling act to square the ball for young Lemeza whose shot carried pace — but Hughes, also aged 18, was well positioned and took the shot cleanly.



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'SEKI' PRAISES BARJAKTAREVIC



It's hard to believe but it's true — Paul Wilson (right) and Alan Hunter are team mates. Wilson's arm crashes into Hunter at Schintler Reserve on Sunday as Footscray JUST goalie Zoran Nikitovic punches clear. Picture: LES SHORROCK.



Peter Desira

JUST 0 Heidelberg 0

Venue: Schintler Reserve.
Referee: Don Campbell 8.

Footscray JUST coach Drago Sekularac paid Rade Barjaktarevic the ultimate compliment at the end of an entertaining match in which the young fullback had played a significant part in blotting out Heidelberg danger-man Paul Wilson, won everything he challenged for in the air, made some timely interceptions and was still full of running come the final whistle.

"Of the younger players at the club, Barjaktarevic is the one who has learned the most. His youth and his pace make him ideal raw material to work on. If he maintains his steady rate of progress I am certain he will make it into the national team next year," Sekularac said.

Apart from the performance of the fullback, Seki was pleased with the overall performance of the team on the day, "except for the finishing."

"Our lead-up work was good and the overall performance is even better considering the players have a complex about playing Heidelberg."

(Heidelberg) is a team that the club hasn't beaten for a number of years and although

I tried to tell my players not to worry about tradition, it was very apparent in the dressing room before the game that the players always fear the worst."

JUST was given a penalty in the 26th minute when Vlado Stolic lobbed the ball through for Warren Spink to

chase into the penalty area and the striker was brought down in the box by Theo Selemidja.

But Jeff Oliver dived the right way to stop Ernie Tapal's spotkick.

The keeper earned the praises of Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey after the game.

"Oliver was a big factor in our getting a result here — he made three or four brilliant saves in the second half apart from stopping the penalty," Garvey said.

But for Heidelberg there is

still work to do to ensure a spot in the championship play-offs.

"There are still four points to be won and the lesser positions (third to fifth) are there to be battled for — anything can happen," Garvey said.

In those two games, Heidelberg is assured of the services of fullback Ian Mackie who gave a good account of himself on his return to the side after a four week absence through injury.

Mackie had a day long tussle with Zdravko Lujic and at the end of the match honors

Man of the match:
R. BARJAKTAREVIC
(Foots JUST)

were about even. But while Lujic was under a firm grip, JUST still managed to create several chances.

JUST sent on Vlado Bozinovski in the 71st minute but the midfielder's re-appearance after an eight week lay-off was shortlived because he was limping within five minutes and was in turn replaced by Ossie Latif.

Police escort for Pollard

APIA 0 Marconi 2

Venue: Lambert Park
Scorers: Gunning 6th, Jan-kovics 60th.

Cautions: Brown (A), Henderson, Tredinnick (B).
Sent-off: Dounis (A).

Referee: Tony Pollard 4.

Marconi registered its first win in five matches when it downed arch-rival APIA in an aggressive Italian derby at Lambert Park.

The victory leaves the clubs with one derby win apiece this year and somewhat surprising the visiting team was the victor on both occasions.

Predictably, the match was an extremely rugged affair which cried out for an experienced referee to keep a tight grip on proceedings before matters got out of hand. And, alarmingly, things got out of hand rather quickly.

Three hair-raising tackles in the opening minutes signalled a busy and trying afternoon for referee Tony Pollard. Unfortunately,



Mike Mikolajczyk

nately, he needed a police escort to leave the ground.

There was however no excuse for the hooligan minority who pelted the Marconi players and the referee with rubbish during and after the game. Although many of those connected with the game are quick to lay the whole blame on sub standard refereeing how is it possible to explain or justify the blatant provocative actions perpetrated by the players on the field. Is it their own way of nullifying the opposition or is it part of their assignment?

APIA's recent run of good fortune deserted it early in the match. In the 6th minute, Marconi's Peter Tredinnick laid on a mastery pass which caught

APIA's defence off balance and Geoff Gunning stormed in to complete the formalities.

APIA's 4-2 formation was intended to hold the formidable Fairfelders but the tactic failed because Marconi's defence was far too strong and its midfield, superbly guided by Tredinnick, was too dynamic. Whatever chance APIA had to get back into the game evaporated in the 36th minute. After two clashes with Marconi's Tony Henderson, Mark Koussas was unable to continue and Louis Dounis took his place. Dounis lasted less than three minutes before being sent-off over a clash with the same Marconi defender. For his part, Henderson was lucky to see out the game with only a yellow card to his name.

After halftime, Marconi

Man of the match:
PETER TREDINNICK
(Marconi)

coach Les Scheinflug brought on goalpoacher Mark Janovics in place of Gunning who was suffering from a groin strain. This move soon paid off as in the 60th minute Janovics increased the margin when he nodded home a close range header from his partner Rod Brown.

Although out through injury for most of the season, Janovics is on the eve of an enviable milestone. His next match will be his 200th National League appearance for Marconi and if he scores it will be his 100th goal.

Marconi by now was in a commanding position and no matter how hard APIA tried, the points were well beyond its grasp.

Croatia blitzes Blacktown



Barry Davis

Syd. Croatia 4 Blacktown 0

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre.
Crowd: 6375.

Referee: Roger Dounas.
Scorers: Arnold 8th & 53rd, Jurin 12th, Savor 36th.

Sydney looked a worthy Northern Division champion as it coasted to this win over neighbour Blacktown.

It now seems certain that Croatia will top the table following the results of last weekend and, judging by this display, it will take one heck of a team to beat it in the play-offs.

Without injured player-coach Vedran Rozic and the suspended Zarko Odzakovic, it produced a great display of attacking football which was a pleasure to watch.

From the very outset Croatia seemed more determined to win and we were to see the results of that determination early in the match.

It opened its account in the 8th minute when Zeljko Jurin took a corner on the right but it was a poor one, looking certain to fall into the waiting arms of Blacktown 'keeper Barry Hoare. For some unaccountable reason though, he dropped the ball and it fell to the feet of Graham Arnold who made no mistake from 10 metres.

Four minutes later, Croatia increased its advantage when Jurin chased an excellent through ball from Wally Savor. The winger latched onto the ball and played it between the legs of the advancing Hoare into an empty net.

Within three minutes, the crowd was on its feet again to salute a David Rezo thunder-bolt from 25 metres but the shot was just millimetres wide of the mark.

In the 17th minute, Blacktown had its first chance of the match when Jeff Ainsworth got his head to an Adam Sandy cross but it was just wide.

Croatia dominated for most of the first half and had a great many chances to increase the margin.

Finally, in the 36th minute, it was able to find the net through Savor. He pounced on a ball which had been only partially cleared by the Blacktown defence to lob it over Hoare's head from 15 metres.

Half-time saw the replacement of Sandy and the introduction of David Sharpe for the visitors but the change was not to produce the desired result.

Three minutes into the second half Rezo put Manis Lamond into space behind the Blacktown defence. The winger played a perfect square ball across the face of goal but Arnold's head just failed to connect. The ball then fell to Jurin who slipped when attempting to shoot and the ball fell to Ivo Petkovic who completely missed it!

Ainsworth then tidied up by clearing the ball well upfield. While Croatia had once again failed to convert a good chance, it showed just how much trouble Blacktown could expect.

Man of the match:
GRAHAM ARNOLD
(Syd. Croatia)

In the 53rd minute, Manis Lamond found himself free in front of the Blacktown goal and so he shot but the ball rebounded from Hoare's diving save to the feet of Arnold who once again had no difficulty in finding the target from 10 metres.

It was only then that Blacktown seemed to relax and started to play some very attractive football. It was all too late of course, as Croatia had a comfortable lead and were never in any real danger of being caught.

The match developed into one of end-to-end open attacking play which had the spectators in their places until the final whistle.

This sort of football will bring the supporters back week after week. It is what they pay for and therefore have a right to see.

After the match, Vedran Rozic said that he was delighted with the match. "It was great to see both teams playing open football in a great spirit."

"I was disappointed that we wasted so many chances but I thought we played well," he said.

"We must now concentrate on our last two matches and then prepare for the play-offs," he added.

SM-Hellas 2 Ad. Hellas 1

Scorers: Andriotis 26th, 73rd (SMH), Konstantopoulos 57th (AH).

Venue: Middle Park.
Crowd: 2,262.

Cautions: Miranda (SMH), Honeyman, Hiern (AH).

Referee: Chris Bambridge 9.

Linesman John Stoikovic was at the centre of controversy surrounding the winning goal as he held his flag down when young Chris Andriotis ran onto Gary McDowall's lob over an Adelaide Hellas defence trying to spring the offside play.

Andriotis, making his full NSL debut, raced clear and struck his shot against Adelaide Hellas goalie Gary Sproul. Andriotis latched onto the rebound, striking it into the unguarded goal.

As Andriotis celebrated with his team-mates, Adelaide Hellas sweeper Graham Honeyman raced across to Stoikovic and harangued him.

Stoikovic was unmoved. So was referee Chris Bambridge. But from where I was standing, there was some doubt about Andriotis being onside.

Nevertheless, what a memorable match this was for the youngster who was signed earlier this year from Victorian League Third Division club Clifton Hill.

It was Andriotis who had given



Craig MacKenzie

en South Melbourne Hellas the lead. In the 26th minute he strode confidently onto Danny Craigne's superbly weighted through ball and hit it past the helpless Sproul.

Adelaide Hellas hit back in the 57th minute when South Melbourne Hellas goalie Peter Laumets punched clear from a corner. It was a curious decision by Laumets as he wasn't under pressure. The ball was volleyed back into the packed penalty area. Lou Hristodoulos shot against the post and as the ball rebounded across goal there was Konstantopoulos to effect a simple tap-in.

Not long after the equaliser, Craigne lost his cool with Stoikovic, who had flagged for offside. Craigne ran to Stoikovic and delivered a verbal salvo that would have made Adolf Hitler blush. How strange then, that Stoikovic didn't tell Bambridge what Craigne said. Had he done so, Bambridge would have had no choice but to send off the Hellas star.

Yet it was Craigne who gave the Hellas side fair, something it glaringly has lacked since Oscar Crino's departure. Craigne's passing and his jinking runs are eye-catching

against a backdrop of pretty pedestrian appearance.

This game was Adelaide Hellas's farewell to its hopes of saving its NSL status.

So, all that money spent on putting a side together that supposedly was going to scare the

life out of the rest of the sides in the Southern Division has proven to be a bad investment.

Let's hope at least that we're not going to lose young players of the quality of Lou Hristodoulos and Alan Scott from the National League. I'm sure we won't.

Graham Honeyman probably will hang up his boots at the end of the season but the way he played here suggest that

Man of the match:
DANNY CRAIGNE
(SM-Hellas)

he's got a lot more in him yet. His surging runs from the back posed problems for South Melbourne Hellas time and again.

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MARCONI

Scheinflug's men on the march towards the finals

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Les Scheinflug plans to use the double chance as the springboard from which to launch Marconi's championship bid in the finals. He's confident that his men can do the job but ask him about his future at Marconi and his mood changes to one of uncertainty.

"I'm going to have to sit down at the end of the season and think things over carefully," says the Marconi and Australian youth team boss.

If Scheinflug was offered the national youth job on a full time basis, he'd probably jump at the chance. He makes little secret of the satisfaction he gets from developing young players.

"I'm super keen to work with kids and I like to think that I have a knack for spotting good young players. I've always claimed that our youngsters are as good as any in the world and I was very pleased with our performances against the Czechoslovakian youths recently."

Australia won the first two matches of that three-match series but lost the last game 0-4 in Newcastle.

"In some ways, I think that we were conned in that last match. The Czechs used three senior members of their full national squad as well as the reserve goalkeeper from the senior squad. I had made five changes to the side that thrashed them in the second game because it was very important to give all the boys a chance to show me what they could do. Had I started with my number one line-up, we would have given them a hell of a match. I'm sure of that."

"But in some ways, I didn't mind losing that match. The Czechs couldn't take their bad losses in the first two games and they're one of the best youth teams in Europe, so I knew they'd be all-out to win the last game."

"But we proved a point. The senior coach, Josef Masopust, and the secretary of the Czech FA were absolutely flabbergasted at the quality of our boys."

"I'm still looking at other youth players. I'm impressed with Sydney Hakeah's youngsters Brett Hughes and Abbas Saad and there are other lads under consideration."

But let's get back to Marconi.

"The biggest problem I had this year was getting my squad settled. Unfortunately, the annual club elections, usually held in October, never took place, so I had to wait until February until the new committee was elected before getting down to business."

"Four weeks after the elections I went to Argentina and believe me you can get some dynamic players from there for virtually nothing."

Scheinflug wanted to inject flair and skill into the Marconi side. The men he chose were Osvaldo El'Ali and Adrian Janin.

"Janin needs time to settle down but he may not give himself that time. He wants to go back to Argentina at



● Marconi and Australian youth team coach Les Scheinflug

the end of the season which is a real pity because I think he could make it in a big way here. El'Ali is different altogether. He loves Australia and he wants to bring his wife out here at the end of the year."

Marconi has a hard run home in its bid to clinch second or third spot in the Northern Division but that doesn't worry Scheinflug. Let's look at the men he has great faith in and his view of them:

BRUCE JAMES (goalkeeper): "He's been pretty consistent and, of course, he has tons of experience. He handles crosses well but I'd like him to improve his kick-outs."

PAUL JONES (goalkeeper): "He's still learning about

'I'm super keen to work with kids and I like to think that I have a knack for spotting good young players'

senior soccer and the next 12 months will decide whether or not he can take over the number one spot at Marconi. He's a good talker. I like that. He comes off his line well but I'd like him to improve his handling."

PAUL CARTER (defender): "A very exciting player. A good defender and great going forward. He's still learning but I feel he could work his way into the Socceroo squad within a couple of seasons."

LEE STERREY (defender): "A very underrated player. He's one of the most consistent performers at Marconi. He reads the game well and there's nothing flashy about him. He just puts in week-in, week-out with a minimum of fuss."

TONY HENDERSON (defender): "Bags of experience. He had to work hard this year and it took him quite some time to lose the five kilos he'd put on over the off-season. He uses the ball very, very well and he's strong in the air."

STEVE CALDERAN (defender): "He's out for the rest of the season, sad to say. He twice was injured early in the year and only has played three games. He's a simple, direct type of player, very similar to Col Bennett, which tells you how dependable he is."

ROBERT WHEATLEY (defender): "I paid \$25,000 for him and planned to use him as my sweeper. I still feel that he eventually will play there but because of a few problems I had in defence I switched him to fullback. He's the type of player who can give Marconi service for many more years."

JOE RIZZOTTO (defender): "One of the busiest players in the game. He's actually not as fast as he looks and that's probably why he looks a bit late with some tackles. He's got a problem with yellow cards and all the referees know him. If he could learn not to commit himself so often, he'd be far better off."

CRAIG MASON (midfielder): "On his day he's the best marker in the game. He's a really good leader. He's had troubles with injuries though and like Rizzotto he's become something of a target for the referees, but what a good player he is."

PETER TREDINNICK (midfielder): "Very, very important to us. A real 100 percent player. He never stops running and he's quick."

IAN GRAY (midfielder): "He lacks a bit in self-confidence. That's the only thing that holds him back because he's got tons of ability. If he'd been luckier this season he could have been one of the leading scorers in the league but you know how these things can go. He's been hitting the posts with shots or striking the ball against the goalkeeper's arms or legs."



ADRIAN JANIN (midfielder): Ricardo Campana. It took Campana to adapt to Australian soccer but Adrian Janin is perhaps just a little what this country can offer. If he can at the end of the year I hope he'll make a decision."

GEOFF GUNNING (midfielder): he still doesn't read the game the way that stops him truly establishing himself in the National League. But he'll get him."

DAVID LOWE (forward): "If he'd be the player I'd like to take to the best players in Australia and all in saying that. He's very, very real in his general approach to support a year for sure. His attitude is a sometimes four nights a week but he's had effort for a guy who lives in overlooked for Socceroo selection."

ROD BROWN (forward): "He's to learn to be more composed, that will come."

MARK JANKOVICS (forward): couple of games this year an afford to have a guy who scores a year on the sidelines."

OSVALDO EL'ALI (forward): You never know what he's got in the field. What an exciting player he really taken to him. He's had no

CK and MARCONI ing Combination

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● Back row: Pedro La Maison (masseur), Adrian Janin, Ian Gray, Bruce James, Rod Brown, Craig Mason, Tony Henderson. Front row: Robort Wheatley, David Lowe, Joe Rizzotto, Paul Carter, Peter Tredinnick, Lee Sterrey, Osvaldo El'Ali. Insets, left to right: Mark Janovics, Steve Calderan, Geoff Gunning, Paul Jones.

reminds me a lot of a couple of years to he did, what a play- young to appreciate es back to Argenti- never regrets that

"Very, very fast but ell which is the only ing himself in the re. I've got faith in

s to leave Marconi, ith me. He's one of ave no hesitation at hrew and if had a , he'd score 25 goals r. He travels three, aining which isn't a ewcastle. He's been for far too long." illy quick but he has ont of goal. Maybe

He's only played a ankly, no side can een 15 and 20 goals

is excellent import. do next out on the e and our fans have ble coping with the

tough stuff and I predict a great future in Australian soccer for him."

Scheinflug believes that within a disciplined approach to the game there's plenty of room for innovation. It's that attitude that attracts fans to Marconi games and hopefully, from his point of view, will enable the club to win the championship.

"Sure, we're disciplined, but I tell my players to be creative, to go forward quickly and to give the crowd not just a win but something worth watching."

But back to the future. Will he stay with Marconi?

'He (David Lowe) is one of the best players in Australia and I have no hesitation at all in saying that. He's been overlooked for Socceroo selection for far too long'

"You keep asking me that, but I really don't know."

"Things change so quickly in soccer. What I can say is that I've got an excellent relationship with Marconi president Tony Labbozzetta. I've been working with Tony before, in fact I've won the NSL championship and the Cup with Tony as my president. He doesn't interfere in my work and that's very, very important. He employs people to do a job for Marconi and if those people don't do it then he gets rid of them. It's pretty straightforward, and that's the way I like to operate."



● Marconi president Tony Labbozzetta

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Alcune settimane fa, nel muovere una pesante, inequivocabile e documentata critica all'allenatore bianconero McKendry, non abbiamo fatto altro che seguire, nostro solito, i principi fondamentali del giornalismo onesto e coerente: dire quello che si vede nel modo come lo si interpreta, non per condannare ma per invitare alla riflessione che potrebbe far nascere la soluzione al problema in questione.

Come del resto in tutte le professioni, nel giornalismo a volte bisogna dover dire cose spiacevoli, perciò saremmo stati noi i primi a giocare se avessimo avuto torto noi e ragione McKendry.

Dopo il disastro di Brisbane ci sentiamo sinceramente scusati di dover prendere atto di questa nostra "vittoria pirrica", poiché è triste aver ragione e vedere la più bella Juventus da quindici anni a questa parte andare allo sfacelo.

Non abbiamo visto la partita, ma anche da lontano è possibile fare delle considerazioni.

Per cominciare la Juventus aveva problemi di organico con le squallide di Zvendorn e Durakovic. McKendry ha tamponato la falla spostando il terzino Peter Lewis a difensore centrale e l'ala Palatsidis a terzino. Per cominciare, per coprire una falla (quella di Zvendorn, poiché Durakovic è stato sempre un tappabucco di riserva), ne ha aperto due: un buon terzino è diventato un mediocre difensore centrale e

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Juve fra vetta e baratro

una buona ala (pardon, le ali non esistono più) e' diventato un pessimo terzino.

La soluzione più semplice sarebbe stata invece riempire la falla di Zvendorn spostando nel suo ruolo Petersen che nel passato ha giocato da libero con ottimi risultati. Questo avrebbe anche evitato di avere al centro della difesa due giocatori pesanti e piuttosto lenti (Brown e Lewis).

La seconda considerazione da fare è, come si può perdere per 4-1 dopo aver chiuso il primo tempo 0-1? Con i problemi di organico, con il calo di forma e con la necessità di far punti per cogliere quel primato che la squadra e il comitato meriterebbero così largamente, qualsiasi allenatore da strapazzo sarebbe stato capace di difendere il risultato, o almeno di provarci magari finendo per subire la rete del pareggio allo scadere del tempo.

Ma beccare quattro reti nel secondo tempo è dannatamente imperdonabile, è mancanza di freddo ragionamento e di capacità di saper analizzare le proprie debolezze e i punti forti dell'avversario.

I punti non conquistati domenica ormai rendono problematico il recupero di due lunghezze dal capolista JUST per accaparrarsi il campionato del girone meridionale; ma il modo come la squadra sta giocando propone una situazione molto più preoccupante.

Con due punti di distacco dalla sesta classificata, per la prima volta in due anni di Lega Nazionale si profila la possibilità che la Juventus venga ad-

dirittura lasciata fuori dalle finali.

E la Juventus nelle prossime due, ed ultime, partite, dovrà vedersela proprio con due delle squadre che aspirano ad un posto nelle finali, la Juventus di Adelaide e il South Melbourne Hellas. Un altro passo falso, e addio campionato 1986.

Ed è proprio in questo difficile frangente che il carattere della Juventus deve venir fuori, cominciando dal tifoso e finendo all'allenatore. Domenica prossima all'Olympic Park nel derby delle Juventus, la squadra bianconera di Melbourne merita tutto l'incoraggiamento della tifoseria fedele e delle migliaia di sportivi italiani occasionalmente presenti allo stadio.

Considerando che la Juventus di Adelaide non potrà portare i suoi tifosi, l'aspetto di una tribuna semivuota sarebbe di cattivo auspicio ai ragazzi di Caruso che ovviamente vorrebbero batterli per far succedere il miracolo. Perciò è necessario avere un pubblico doppio del normale per dare una vigorosa spinta morale alla squadra; sta ai fedelissimi trasnarsi indietro tutto gli amici che possono.

Comitato e gente vicina al club debbono cercare di scuotere i giocatori dal loro torpore, far vedere che ancora credono in loro e nella loro capacità di battere qualsiasi avversario.

I giocatori debbono ricordare che sono i campioni d'Australia e che hanno un grosso dovere verso i tanti, o i pochi che li sostengono, una applicazione disperata per due

altre partite potrebbe ancora dar loro la più grande soddisfazione. Il JUST potrebbe ancora perdere due punti contro il Preston e il Brisbane Lions; quattro punti per la Juventus in altrettante partite potrebbero significare lo scudetto grazie ad un miglior quoziente reti.

E infine l'allenatore. McKendry dovrebbe avere la forza di carattere di ammettere che i suoi sistemi sono errati per la formazione ai suoi ordini e che i giocatori sono sacrificati nella impostazione tattica e nell'impiego individuale. La cosa è molto più semplice di quello che potrebbe sembrare poiché non deve escogitare nuovi sistemi di punto in bianco, deve soltanto lasciare che la squadra torni a giocare nel modo come è abituata e rende meglio.

Questo modo è così semplice: il libero che rimane fedelmente al suo posto piuttosto di lasciare scoperta una difesa che non recupera facilmente; i due terzini alternativamente lasciati liberi di avanzare lungo le fasce laterali per imbeccare gli avanti; Petersen lasciato a briglia sciolta per rallentare il gioco fino a che i suoi compagni sono in posizione prima di dover fare il passaggio o di infilarsi fra la difesa avversaria per andare a rete; Sweeney al centro dell'attacco per tenere impegnata la difesa avversaria, con Zinni a Palatsidis larghi sulle ali per allargare la difesa, crossare o convergere al centro.

Non ci vuole u' arca di scienza per rimettere in atto il sistema che ha funzionato così bene l'anno scorso.

Tommy Mitchell's men down Dinamo

Man of the match:
JIMMY ROSS
F'ston Pines

By LES SHORROCK

Frank Pines 3 St. Alb Dinamo 2

Scorers: Armstrong 10th, Cumming penalty 44th, McGorian 39th (FT), Ramjak 22nd, Lloyd 40th (St. A).

Venue: Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

Considering the conditions under which it was played, this match was a rip-roaring affair that had us all on tenderhooks until the final whistle and was a credit to both sides.

That Pines even won the game was quite an achievement given that coach Danny McGorian was in Brisbane, assistant coach Ernie Merrick was on holiday in Noosa, and even masseur Ken Lyon was elsewhere.

I think the team was picked and organised by some sort of players' collective, under the caretaker-ship of Tommy Mitchell. As usual, the irrepressible Mike McGorian summed it all up: "Just call us the Loosesome Pines in the paper," he said. Right on, Mick.

Anyway, coached or not, Pines took the lead in the 10th minute after a nice interpassing movement initiated by Jimmy Ross, then McGorian and Craig Miller was rounded off with a drive from Richie Armstrong. Pines were going like a house afire then, and threatening to overwhelm St. Albans Dinamo.

But there were ominous signs of misunderstanding at the back creeping in. Pines had elected to play five at the back — a la Arok — but there seemed to be some doubt as to who was playing where, and Dennis Boland was screaming: "Get them organised," at anyone and everyone in general.



Danny Ramjak of St. Albans Dinamo is all smiles after scoring at Monterey Reserve last Saturday but his joy was shortlived. Pines won the match 3-2. Picture: LES SHORROCK

His panic was justified in the 22nd minute, when John Cumming and Miller decided to head the ball together, and not surprisingly, both missed and the ball fell nicely for Danny Ramjak, who fleetly slammed it past Boland.

The Pines players had a sort of shop stewards' meeting then, but Saints had their tails up. Branko Cullina, taking advantage of the phantom right back, was running riot, and it was no great surprise when Kevin Lloyd put Dinamo in front.

That was five minutes before half-time, but just as the Pines' faithful were beginning to get worried, referee Evan Venios came to the rescue with a penalty which Cumming gratefully tucked away.

The Pines dressing room was packed at half-time as the players and a dozen or more advisers sorted out the system, and order was restored three minutes into the second half when McGorian (who else?), produced a bit of magic to grab the winner.

After that it was just a case of the home supporters biting their nails for 42 minutes. As McGorian said at the end: "Who needs coaches, anyway?"

Well done, Wilhelmina

By MIKE LYNN

Wilhelmina 1 Thomastown 0

Score: Angula 15th.

Venue: Jubilee Park, Sunday.

In the final analysis Ringwood City Wilhelmina's desire to remain in the State League was far greater than Thomastown's will to finish the season in the top four.

Wilhelmina deserved this victory although the goal that proved to be of such vital significance to the home team could certainly be considered lucky.

A long crossfield pass from right to left by Wilhelmina midfielder Stuart Thomson was only partially cleared by Thomastown full back Mike Rainey.

The ball fell nicely for Wilhelmina midfielder Victor An-

Man of the match:
GARY BATES
(Wilhelmina)

gula who carried it to the Thomastown backline then turned inside quickly and crossed the ball with his right foot. Angula's cross was mis-trucked, deceiving Thomastown goalkeeper Mauro Raponi, and sneaked into goal just inside the far post.

The goal lifted every Wilhelmina player and for the rest of the match they fought tooth and nail.

From a purist point of view the quality of football on display was, to say the least, disappointing. Ringwood's play was simple — kick the ball long into Thomastown's back third and work hard. That it

certainly did.

During the first half most of the Thomastown players seemed content to watch proceedings rather than get involved and as a result they only created one scoring opportunity. That was in the 18th minute when striker Brian Flaherty gave a superb through pass for midfielder Kevin Carfora on the right side of the Wilhelmina defence. Carfora raced to the backline and his cross to the far post picked out striker Andy Higgins but his headed attempt from six metres just missed the target.

The second half became very competitive but the game was spoilt as a spectacle when several off-the-ball incidents went unpunished.

Both sides had chances to score by the highlight of the match was a stunning 25-metre, dipping volley by Wilhelmina's Kees Storm that thumped against the Thomastown crossbar in the 71st minute.

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Tough task for McAleer's men, McGinness to return

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Croydon can wrap up the State League championship by beating Fawkner tonight (Wednesday) and Polonia on Sunday. Both games are at Croydon Park.

Tonight's clash kicks off at 7.40pm. The reserves game starts at 6pm.

"How am I going to get my lads going after this? It'll be a hell of a job," said Fawkner coach Frank McAleer after his side was hammered 6-1 by Croydon at Smith Reserve last weekend.

How right he is. Dave Nixon was carried off in that match with a nasty gash on a knee and probably won't play again this season while John Di Cecco was sent off in the second half. "I'd rather lose 6-1 with a



● Mark Wilson — he's added a lot of steel to the St. Albans Dinamo midfield.

team of youngsters than get beaten 6-1 with an experienced side," said McAleer, indicating that he might promote a couple of reserve team lads for tonight's clash. The Fawkner coach also was disappointed at "being let down" by some experienced players last Sunday. I've got no doubts about Croydon's ability to win tonight's game and go on to record its second successive championship success. And while I'm at it, I'd like to publicly remind you Hammy McEneaney about a certain wager we had at the start of the year.

Sunday's clash with Polonia will be a lot tougher than tonight's game though. Polonia scored two goals in the first 15 minutes then went on to record a 2-0 win over Western Suburbs.

Had Polonia lost, it would have been starting down the barrel again in its fight to avoid relegation. That battle isn't over yet and no doubt a few members of the Polonia camp will be more than just interested observers at John Cain Reserve on Saturday when Northcote meets Wilhelmina. I'm tipping a draw in that match. George Bozakis, Peter Constantinou and Chris Bekiaris missed Northcote's 3-1 loss to Morwell Falcons last Saturday. Constantinou and Bekiaris have ankle injuries while Bozakis has a bad hamstring and all three are struggling to fit to face Wilhelmina.

St Albans Dinamo and Box Hill are fighting for a top four spot when they clash at Churchill Reserve on Saturday. I was starting to lose faith in the Hillmen until their 3-0 win over Springvale City last weekend so I'll jump back on their band-

wagon and tip them to down Dinamo in what should be a cracking contest.

Dinamo has plenty of flair and a hell of a lot more bite than it had last season. In fact, it's the improvement in the physical side of its game which has impressed me most this season. Midfielder Mark Wilson has played his part in that department as have Kevin Lloyd and Robert Krjaicic.

But Box Hill is fit and hard and it can play too.

Caulfield could surprise Fawkner at Princes Park on Saturday. Until Dave Brooks arrived, Caulfield wasn't well organised at the back. That's changed since his switch from Box Hill and with Danny Zemunik buzzing about as usual up front, the home side can worry the Fawkner back four. Caulfield has started a lot of its home games this season with a flourish and Fawkner won't want to be caught off guard early.

I know that I was made to look silly by Ian Sturtin's two goals against Northcote last weekend after writing in last week's "Soccer Action" that the Morwell camp held fears for Sturtin's availability for the rest of the season due to a nagging knee injury. My information came from Morwell coach Dave O'Connor and, at the time, it was accurate. It seems that Sturtin still is troubled by the complaint but that he'll see out the season before surgery it out.

That's bad news for Western Suburbs. But now for the good news.

George Beattie should be back to face Morwell at Ralph Reserve on Sunday and striker Bobby McGinness is expected to be in the starting line-up. McGinness has had trouble shrugging off a groin injury and only came on at half-time of Suburbs' loss to Polonia.

Suburbs coach Jimmy Kondilis is toying with the idea of using Beattie in midfield, an area in which Suburbs have had a few problems this season.

Even with Beattie and McGinness in the starting line-up, my money's on Falcons to maintain their late bid for the top four.

Thomastown coach Mike Lynn is waiting with his fingers crossed for the result of tonight's (Wednesday's) tribunal hearing involving striker George McMillan. Lynn hopes to have McMillan available for Sunday's Partridge Reserve clash with Frankston Pines, a match that looms as the draw bet of the round.

Springvale clashes with Melbourne Hungaria at Ross Reserve on Sunday... well, maybe. If Melbourne turns up at Soccer House this week and if Melbourne turns up with its players' passports at Ross Reserve on Sunday the match may go ahead. Don't hold your breath.

Here are this week's games with likely winners in capitals:

WEDNESDAY

(tonight)

CROYDON v Fawkner at Croydon Park, 7.40pm.

SATURDAY

St Albans Dinamo v BOX HILL at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.

CAULFIELD v Fawkner at Princes Park, 3pm.

Northcote v Ringwood Wilhelmina (draw) at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.

SUNDAY

Thomastown v Frankston Pines (draw) at Partridge Reserve, 3pm.

SPRINGVALE CITY v Melbourne Hungaria at Ross Reserve, 3pm.

CROYDON v Polonia at Croydon Park, 3pm.

Western Suburbs v MORWELL FALCONS at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.



● Action from Monterey Reserve last weekend. Dinamo's Branko Culina (right) is hot on the trail of Pines' midfielder Jimmy Ross. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Long stands firm, Drouge blows it

KNOX CITY 0 NUNAWADING CITY 0, Victorian Division One match at Egan Lee Reserve, Sunday.

KNOX CITY: Long, Pate, Fryatt, Rau, Turner, Bryden, Murray, Bakker, Dixon, Reid, McCloy (Holmes 65th).

NUNAWADING CITY: Mader, Hurleston, Charavale, McCombe, Remmers, Lawler, Elliott, Middlemast, Moyle, Nellies (Bastasin 64th). Pote.

This was a game that badly needed a goal, didn't get on and in the end both sides seemed content to settle for a draw.

Knox made most of the early running with Reid prominent. Nunawading didn't come into the game until the half hour mark when Middlemast struck the foot of the post with a fine, 25-metre free kick.

In the 52nd minute, Middlemast played a glorious through ball to Elliott but the latter tried to walk the ball into the net and Long was able to save.

Long also changed his luck on a couple of occasions coming out of the area and dribbling the ball clear.

He also made two fine saves from Moyle and Bastasin.

As the game progressed, Knox also started to create some chances.

Reid shot wide from point blank range after a deflection had left him in the clear. Mader saved two long range shots from Murray and Bakker as the home side pushed forward, but the goal that might have sparked this into a better match never came.

ELTHAM 1 (Velkos 8th) WAVERLEY CITY 1 (Gamaras 20th), Victorian Second Division match at Eltham North Reserve, Saturday.

ELTHAM: Panas 6 — Sabbadinis 6, Velkos 7, Cochran 7, Anagnostou 6 — Woodward 6, Sabidussi 7, Pavlides 6, Moules 6, Cika (ing. Spiros 28th) 6, (Ovens 85th), Morton 5.

WAVERLEY CITY: M. Perree 6 — Inouye 6, Gellings 6, Perree 6, Wilson 7 — Wells 6, Grimwade 7, Gabriel 6, Booth 8 — Greener 6, T. Gamaras 6.

With five senior players absent through injuries Eltham turned on a brave performance in very poor conditions to deservedly gain a valuable point that virtually assures safety from relegation.

Eltham took the lead in the 86th minute following a superb inswinging corner from ex-Fawkner captain Carlo Sabidussi that the Waverley defenders failed to clear properly. The ball fell nicely for stopper George Velkos who calmly side-footed it past Mark Perree into the far corner.

Waverley equalised in the 20th minute when an Ian Greener corner was played hard and low into the near post and was missed by the Eltham defenders allowing striker Tommy Gamaras to slide in and knock the ball over the line from two metres.

The first half was dominated by Waverley and as the pressure built the many corners gained, taken by the experienced Greener, caused the Eltham defenders all sorts of problems. Eltham coach Les Gooney must have stirred his players to greater effort during

the interval because they certainly demonstrated far more purposes in the second half.

Eltham should have been awarded a penalty in the 55th minute when a superb pass by Alex Staios was latched onto by striker Dave Morton just inside the Waverley penalty area. As Morton was about to shoot Waverley sweeper Johnny Coulter dived into clear the danger but only managed to upend Morton. Fortunately for Waverley, referee Tony McHugh decided the tackle was fair.

Eltham almost took the lead in the 70th minute when a great through pass from Carlo Sabidussi found Con Moulas surging into the Waverley pen-

alty area. Moulas got to the ball just ahead of goalkeeper Mark Perree but his successful job was cleared off the line by full back George Drouge.

Drouge had the opportunity to win the match for Waverley with the best piece of play for the whole game in the 85th minute. The full back won possession of the ball on the halfway line and surged forward then played a superb one-two with Booth and charged past Eltham sweeper Johnny Cochran on the edge of the penalty area. With only Eltham goalkeeper Billy Panas to beat, Drouge wasted his great individual effort by blasting the ball over the bar.

Selections

VICTORIAN LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Saturday: NUNAWADING CITY v Werribee, SUNBURY UNITED v Altona, Oakleigh v Broadmeadows (draw), Doveton v North Dandenong (draw).

Sunday: S.M. MORDIALLOC v Abnind Rivers, Richmond v DONCASTER ROVERS, Mornington v KNOX CITY.

DIVISION TWO

Saturday: BULLEEN v Sandringham, Ringwood United v Prahran City (draw), NORTH GEELONG v Altona City, Marletland Park Rangers v DANDENONG CITY, KELLOR v Eltham, Waverley City v ESSENDON CITY, ROYAL RICHMOND v Hamlyn Rangers.

DIVISION THREE

Saturday: Port Melbourne v YALLOURN, YARRALLUE v Ball Park, Springvale United v MOORDOOLBARK, ROSANNA v Clifton Hill, Prahran v Coburg (draw), Corio v FEINTREE SULLY, Geelong v Moorabbin City (draw).

DIVISION FOUR

Saturday: Hawthorn v WEST BRUNSWICK, Boroona v Langwarrin (draw), Laton United v HOLLAND PARK, KEYSBOROUGH v Ballarat, Heidelberg Bundora v CLARINDA, KARINGAL United v Brighton.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Saturday: Ivanhoe City v Geelong United (draw), Warrnamatta v EAST PRESTON, Seaford United v ARDEER, PASCOE Vale v Clayton, WILLIAMSTOWN v East Geelong, MALVERN CITY v Berwick City, Central City v Geelong (draw).

DIVISION TWO

Saturday: MURBEEK v BRUNSWICK CITY, South Dandenong v CHELSEA, REGENT v Cranbourne, FOREST HILL v Dixie United, Uni of Melb v MOSSFIELD, NORTH SUNSHINE v Melton.

DIVISION THREE

Saturday: GLENROY v South Springvale, Meadow Park v Richmond United (draw), West Meadows v ASCOT VALE CITY, South Yarra v MITCHEAM, Parkmore v BATMAN UNITED, Port United v BURWOOD UNITED, Altona United v FITZROY CITY.

DIVISION FOUR

Saturday: WEST UNITED v Skye Rovers, RINGWOOD ROVERS v Balclava, Debnay Park v CARRUM UNITED, NORTHERN UNITED v Lyndale United, WAWERLEY UNITED v Mulgrave, ASCAN, KENSINGTON UNITED v Riversdale, Laton v St Kilda (draw).

AMATEUR LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Sunday: MACCABI v Endeavour Hills, Epping Thistle v Phillip Institute (draw), BALWYN CITY v Northern Suburbs, Eagles United v Melbourne University (draw), Diamond Valley v BRINTONS, Ascot St Marks v COLLINGWOOD CITY.

DIVISION TWO

Sunday: Yarra United v NORTH MELBOURNE, Diggers Rest v DAKLEIGH UNITED, Waverley Wanderers v HAWTHORN UNITED, East Altona v La Trobe University (draw), East Richmond v Old Scotch (draw).

DIVISION THREE

Sunday: Reservoir Eagles v KELLOR UNITED, Old Pardners v UPFIELD, R.M.I.T. v InterCity.

Buffalo State League Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
CROYDON	14	5	4	52	26	33
F'NTON PINES	11	7	5	33	23	29
BOX HILL	9	10	5	37	23	28
ST. ALB. DINAMO	10	8	6	37	25	28
M'well Falcons	13	2	9	42	33	28
Springvale	10	6	8	24	23	26
Fawkner	10	5	8	23	22	25
West. Subs.	10	5	9	34	35	25
Thomastown	8	7	9	26	25	23
Caulfield City	10	3	11	35	39	23
Northcote City	7	10	10	33	42	20
Polonia	5	6	13	21	29	16
Wilhelmina	5	6	13	17	46	16
Melb-Hungaria	2	8	14	18	41	12

FRANKSTON PINES 3 (Armstrong 10th, Cumming 44th, McGorian 48th) ST. ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Ramjak 2nd, Lloyd 40th) at Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES: Boland 6 — Cullen 6 — Cumming 7, Thurlow 6, Bozic 5, Miller 5 (Watson H.T. 6) — Dick 6, Ross 8, Webster 7 — Armstrong 7 (Rune 80th), McGorian 8. Coach: Tommy Mitchell (Cretakaj).

ST. ALBANS DINAMO: M. Grgic 6 — Kustura 8, Krjaicic 6, Brkijacic 6, Ramjak 6 — M. Wilson 6, Lloyd 6, Culina 8 — Kuzman 5, Colina 5, Rastocic 5 (Deac 56th). Coach: Tony Vrzina.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 Ross (FP), 2 Kustura (St. Al.), 1 McGorian (FP).

MORWELL FALCONS 3 (Clarke 24th, Sturtin 65th, 88th) NORTHCOTE 1 (Kouremenos 80th) at North Crinigan Reserve, Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS: Prezioso 7 — Bingham 8, D. Wilson 8, Bruns 8 (in. Bezzina 85th), Tutill 8 (in. Sostac 83rd) — T. van Baar 8, O'Callaghan 8, E. Cassar 8 — Clarke 8, Sturtin 8, A. Cassar 7. Coach: Dave O'Connor.

NORTHCOTE: Turudis 8 — Siliadis 3, Pantiotis 8, Kouremenos 7, J. Constantinou 4 — Beleginos 3, Hazakis 70th, Tora 4, Gymnopoulos 3, Small 4 (Aretis 81st) — Parasikos 3, Tot 3. Coach: Roy McIvor.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 O'Callaghan (MF), 2 Tutill (MF), 1 Sturtin (MF).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 (Angula 15th) THOMASTOWN 0 at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Blackley 7 — Meyer 7, Corke 6, Bates 8, Wemyss 6 — Thomson 7, Bakker 7, Verniers 7, Angula 6 — Storm 8. Mensink 5 (Nijholt 82nd). Coach: Tom Kelly.

THOMASTOWN: Rapot 6 — Ramer 6, Ramer 6 (Hackett 65th), Cosentino 6, Arcoraci 7, Plianito 6 — Carfora 5 (Evans 70th), Kerr 7, Di Martino 5, Coyle 5 — Higgins 5, Flaherty 5. Coach: Mike Lynn.

BOX HILL 3 (Mur own goal 20th, Griffin 51st, 85th) SPRINGVALE CITY 0 at Wembley Park, Sunday.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 7 — McPhee 7, Hennessy 7, A. McKinnin 7, Hird 7 — Ramos 6, Hughes 7, Burton 8, Roodhouse 6 — Griffin 7, McKinnin 8. Coach: Keith Webster.

SPRINGVALE CITY: Mur 3 — Bentley 7, Bissinger 7, Adams 8, Kral 6 (M. Wild 61st) — J. Nelson 7, Bell 7, G. Bannon 6 — Athersyth 7, House 8 (Deans 72nd), Garvey 6. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

Best three for Ametco award: 3 McKinnin (BH), 2 Adams (SI), 1 Burton (BH).

AMETCO TRAVEL AWARD

Ametco Travel, in conjunction with VSF Travel, is providing a return trip to Singapore for our 1986 State League Player of the Year.

Leading votegetters:

25 — Adams (Springvale)
24 — Dick (Pines)
21 — Hennessy (Box Hill)
20 — Krjaicic (Dinamo), Bell (Springvale)
18 — Walsh (Fawkner)
17 — Burton (Box Hill)
16 — O'Callaghan (Morwell)

15 — Theodosopoulos (Melbourne), Bruns (Morwell), M. Wilson (Dinamo), French (Croydon), Nelson (Polonia).
12 — Zemunik (Caulfield), Di Martino (Thomastown), Tuck (Suburbs)

11 — Cozzella, Fattore (Fawkner), P. Constantinou (Northcote), Corke (Wilhelmina) Plianito (Thomastown)

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Leading scorers:
19 — Storm (Morwell)
13 — French (Croydon)
12 — Zemunik (Caulfield), Dick (Pines), Griffin (Box Hill), Humble (Croydon).

9 — Storm (Wilhelmina), McGinness (Suburbs).

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STANDINGS

Thomastown League Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Manchester Excited	6	0	0	55	13	18
Brilliant Barbers	6	0	0	47	14	18
Furious Five	5	0	1	40	12	16
Celtics	4	0	1	55	11	12
Shamrocks	3	0	3	26	19	12
Internazionale	2	0	3	24	19	9
Vasco de Gama	2	0	2	16	14	8
Gladiators	1	0	5	12	43	8
White Peles	1	0	4	12	43	7
Wanderers	0	0	6	15	71	6
Gipsters	0	0	5	14	57	5

● Top scorers: 28 - J. Metaxas (C); 23 - G. Thalassinou (ME); 19 - P. Belegirinos (BB); 18 - P. Markakos (ME).

Donvale League Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Carcioffi Rangers	8	1	0	69	18	26
Zlatna Luka	8	0	1	89	21	26
White Peles	7	1	1	60	19	24
Gipsland Ghosts	6	0	3	75	41	21
Ethnic United	4	0	5	32	39	16
Sweatogs	4	0	4	26	31	15
Raiders	3	1	6	44	53	15
Master Blaster	1	0	7	22	84	10
Azzurri	0	1	8	12	51	9
Peperoncin	0	1	6	13	85	8

● Top scorers: 49 - A. Pericic (ZL); 36 - S. Sella (CR); 24 - A. Carafa (GG).

Carcioffi 7

Carcioffi Rangers had a bad start in this Donvale League match because three players were late so Rangers started with a 3-0 deficit.

But within a matter of minutes, goals flew in from Tochetto and Dal Costello who both played magnificently. Then the amazing Sella got into the game with a hat-trick before half time. Tochetto played well and his excellent passing set up Dal Costello's hat-trick.

Cesarin pulled off some amazing saves to keep the Rangers up front. Despite a

few cards being shown it was a clean game.

The Rangers are hoping they can maintain their good form to win the premiership. Congratulations to Silvio Sella, who is second top goal scorer.

Zlatna Luka 18

There isn't very much one can say when scores occur like these.

Obviously Zlatna Luka is not going to give any goals away and will try to score as many as possible to give it a good goal average.

Zlatna dominated with players like Ante Pericic who himself scored eleven goals,

Darren Kieran who scored four and Nino Ragusa who got three.

Master Blasters did manage one goal in the second half from Kadaras but the game was a non event for them.

White Peles 12

Again White Peles showed their strength with constant barrage of goals.

At half time the score was 6-2 in favour of Peles.

Stilo and Arbrea had scored for Azzurri but this was not enough for in the second half we saw another six piled on by Peles to Azzurris one. Peles' style allowed them to dominate with ease.

They have an abundance of prolific goal scorers who give them the advantage over many teams. Man of the Match went to Carlo Baravelli of White Peles.

Gipps Ghosts 10

Ethnic United 6
Ghosts had an easy victory over a much depleted Ethnic side.

Weakened Ethnics were kept constantly on the run whilst Ghosts had a number of substitutes to fall back on and they used them carefully giving their team a fresh boost throughout the game.

Goals came from almost every team member on both sides showing the intensity of the game.

Man of the Match again went

to Frank Marchesani who is constantly putting very good performances.

Ian Heaps for the United team was their best player and considering the number of goals scored the losing team did very well.

Buffalo Mets 3

S. Operators 0

The first of the practice games at the Donvale Centre last week was a warm-up for the Buffalo Mets who met Melbourne Eliminators on Sunday in the first National League game of the season.

Buffalo Mets are a very strong team whose talents captivate their audiences. In goal for Mets is Lucky Inturissi from Geelong who has had an outstanding season and his talent on the night stopped a number of attempts by Operators.

Buffalo Mets scored two goals to none in the first half giving them a handy lead and Operators were a little shocked to be facing defeat for the first time. Operators couldn't make any impression in the second half but Mets added one more which gave them a victory of 3-0.

Canons 8

Adriatic Eagles 1
This was another one man show by Spiro Alatsas.

He scored all of the eight goals with plenty of backing from his team mates. From what combination it used, Adriatic was unable to stop

Alatsas, and the best it could do in reply was only one goal.

Adriatic has a number of good ex-outdoor players who given time could produce a good team and maybe the score could be reversed next time.

Riviera 3

Nike 3

Nike played possibly its best game of the year to draw with Riviera who are a great side and who don't give up easily.

At half time Nike led 1-0. But the second half saw Riviera in its true form and Tkalcevic and Rashid scored three whilst Nike could manage only from Ari Katsigiannis.

It was a very entertaining game and the two teams should be good competitors in the new season kicking off next week.

Red Devils 9

Kaiser Chiefs 5

The practice games leading up to the start of a new season have seen a marked improvement in several teams, particularly Red Devils.

On past performances this game should have been easy for Chiefs, but Red Devils upset the form book with a big win.

Both teams displayed a lot of talent. Harry Petropoulos was top scorer for Devils with four goals whilst Toli Averginos and Sparano scored two each for Chiefs.

Olympic hits back, Pythons too good

Olympic 4 Mak. Raiders 2

Olympic showed tremendous fight and determination to come from a 2-1 deficit in this Preston Youth League game to beat the strong Makedonian Raiders team.

The scores were deadlocked at half time at 1-1 with both teams showing great skill.

A goal early in the second half by Attila Sallatoglou put Makedonian Raiders in the lead.

Olympic continued to pile on the pressure without much success until late in the second half when it hit a purple patch and scored three goals in the space of a few minutes.

Chris Archimandritis and John Panagopoulos both notched two for Olympic. Makedonian Raiders' keeper Nelson Ribiero was his team's hero after pulling off some fantastic saves throughout the match to thwart Olympic's efforts.

Zaggers 6

Mak. Eliminators 1

The Makedonian Eliminators were still in the match at half time after going into the break at 1-1 but the strong combination of the Zaggers finally broke away to record another win.

Ivan Murador and John Inzana did most of the damage for the Zaggers while George Cavallo and Bill Koustidis fought hard for the Eliminators.

Preston Pythons 6 Nacionalis

The entertaining skills of the Preston Pythons proved too good for the Nacionalis.

Virgilio Carualto was in fine form again and scored two goals while showing the crowd some of his delightful skills. Fortunato Carualto also scored two goals while Chico Tilma played well.

Lou Tsigaras and Alex Sismanis were Nacionalis' better players with Tsigaras scoring their only goal.

The Preston Pythons have also been entered into the National League under the name Buffalo Mets and they will surely be one of the crowd favorites with their entertaining brand of soccer.

Grasshoppers 8

Goodonya 6

This would surely be the most exciting game of the competition by far.

Both are excellent teams who kept the crowd on the edge of their seats for almost the entire match. The two teams could not be separated at the break with the score at two all.

After the break they were still neck and neck until the Grasshoppers raced away to a 7-4 lead with only minutes to go.

You have to say goodonya to Goodonya because they immediately fought back with two excellent conversions whereas

the Grasshoppers failed to capitalise on a lot of their chances.

There was an exciting finish. With the score at 706, Grasshoppers began to play possession football while valuable seconds ticked away. An opening was created through this possession play and converted by Grasshoppers which put the game beyond Goodonya's reach.

Peter Markakos scored a hat-trick for Goodonya and George Thalassinou notched two.

Velce Kondinski hit three home for the Grasshoppers while two were scored by Aki Kotzamalichas and Silvio Sella. Congratulations to both teams on a fine match.

Euronations 11
Ugly Juventus 3

Euronations set up their win in the second half, racing away to an 8-1 lead.

Ugly Juventus could not cope with the striking power of Terry Fragakis, Christ Soteriou and Fabio Gauci. Fragakis scored five for the match while Gauci and Soteriou both scored two.

Ugly Juventus' keeper Slavie Kondinski did well to stop a lot of his opponents' efforts at goal while his team mates could not resort to fouling to stop them.

Euronations came up against Grasshoppers next week which should also be a tremendous match.

Tsobanopoulos and Grbevski sent off

Shamrocks 11

Wanderers 1

The Shamrocks have moved into the top five in the Thomastown League with a resounding win over the Wanderers.

The Keoghans lads - Patrick and John - again were in fine form for the Shamrocks scoring five and three goals respectively and being the two best players on the court.

Vasco de Gama 9

Gladiators 2

Vasco de Gama, with Bill Grbic in excellent form and Albert Stasi hungry for goals, showed signs of last season's form which took it into the final.

Major scorers were Stasi with five goals and Jim Tanovski with two. The Gladiators lacked striking power and only had Steve Lazenkas with his shooting boots on. He scored their goals.

B. Barbas 3

Celtics 1

This match between these undefeated teams and two of the favourites for the title should have been the best match of the competition but sadly, it only lasted 10 minutes.

Celtics had Kon Tsobanopoulos and Con Grbevski sent off, leaving them with three men and trailing 3-1.

Man. Excited 11

Gipsters 4

Manchester Excited remained at the top of the ladder after a solid performance against the Gipsters.

Bill Markakos was in devastating form scoring five goals as did ever-reliable George Thalassinou.

Peter Markakos also had a fine game and contributed the other goal. The Gipsters' captain Michael Kyriakopoulos was their best player and scored a hat-trick.

Furious Five 2

Marazico 0

This was an extremely close match.

A goal in each half was enough to separate the sides. Les Striniis worried the Marazico backline but his finishing let him down.

Muzu Eideh put in another good performance. Marazico's Dom Di Sera and Oscar Rosa both accumulated the maximum five fouls which didn't help their team because Marazico didn't have enough substitutes.

ELIMINATORS TRIUMPH

By JOHN KERAN

MELBOURNE ELIMINATORS 7 (John Metaxas 5, Rob Noggler, John Micheloudakis) BUFFALO METS 5 (Carlos Ferreira 3, Carlos A. de Melo 2). James Hardie NISL match at Templestowe.

ELIMINATORS: Terzini 8, Boin 7, Kotzamalichas 6, Noggler 7, Micheloudakis 7, Metaxas 8

BUFFALO METS: N. Ribiero 6, Ferreira 9, Caruzho 8, J. Ribiero 7, A. de Melo 7, P. de Melo 6

Both teams started the game with key players missing.

The game started at a slow pace with both sides playing defensively. It wasn't until the 4th minute that the opening goal was scored and that came from the boot of defender Robbie Noggler who surged down the left touchline and cracked an unstoppable left foot shot just out of the reach of Ribiero.

Then the Mets got their game together and showed everyone in the stadium their magical skills and shooting power.

Boin was then replaced by big Aki Kotzamalichas in the 14th minute.

In the 17th minute Ferreira, cool under pressure found Caruzho who weaved past

Noggler and cracked a superb shot past advancing keeper Terzini.

The Mets finally struck and had a 2-1 lead at the break.

In the 3rd minute of the second half Kotzamalichas won the ball then found Noggler down the left touchline who passed to Micheloudakis and from close range he found the back of the net with a low, hard shot to make the score 2-2.

Buffalo Mets then decided it was time to apply the pressure and quickly were rewarded by a great goal from A de Melo in the 7th minute.

Then John Metaxas intercepted a defender's bad pass. Metaxas stormed towards goal and slid the ball past Ribiero, making it 3-3.

A minute later Metaxas had an excellent chance from close range but shot high and wide.

Three minutes later, a de Melo found Ferreira storming down field. He passed to Boin who slid it past Terzini and the Buffalo Mets led 4-3.

Ferreira's goal was quickly answered by Metaxas who

Man of the match: CARLOS FERREIRA (Buffalo Mets)

weaved his way down the right touchline and from a near impossible angle shot at Ribiero who fumbled the ball and it rolled in. It was 4-4 with five minutes remaining.

Ferreira managed to score his hat-trick when he passed Terzini and cool as you like slid the ball into the empty net.

Metaxas, in the following second, dribbled past two players and cracked a low hard shot under Ribiero's body to make it 5-5.

Metaxas struck again to make it 6-5 to the Eliminators and caught out the Mets on the break in the final seconds when he ran onto Nis's pass to complete the scoreline.

All the NISL results: Mackay Monarchs 0 Nitra Bombers 7, Enduro Spartans 3 Canberra Strikers 4, Sydney Tornados 5 Canberra Rockets 3, Lotte All Stars 7 Canberra Strikers 5, Enduro Spartans 7 Canberra Rockets 3, Sydney Tornados 10 Canberra Strikers 2, Lotte All Stars 10 Canberra Rockets 3, Melbourne Eliminators 7 Buffalo Mets 5.

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Melita Eagles set for title

With one round of the competition remaining, the League's front runners — Melita Eagles — look set to take out the Premiership in style.

With only Freshwater Warringah in its way, few could doubt that Melita will do it comfortably. In fact, Melita needs only a point to make sure of its place at the top of the table.

The only other side in the chase is Manly Warringah. However, Manly's inferior goal difference gives Melita the comfort of being satisfied with a point.

Freshwater Warringah is desperate for a point to stay in the League and is unlikely to lay down and accept defeat. It will battle all the way but I see very little else but a comfortable victory and the title to Melita Eagles.

The side already has taken out the Club Premiership with its First and Second Grade

sides on top and its Third Grade side in second spot.

It is anticipated that Melita will have the best crowd of the season on Sunday to celebrate its State League title victory.

At Mona Park, Uruguay meets Kuringai. Terry Bertram has retired following Kuringai's loss to Rockdale Ilinden last Sunday and that will leave a huge gap in Kuringai's defence. That fact alone could account for the favouritism of Uruguay, plus the fact that Kuringai has lost three in a row, while Uruguay is fresh from a victory at Wollongong.

Manly Warringah needs to win against Avala to stand any chance of winning the Premiership. With John Dick and Don Allan returning it is anticipated that Avala will be in for a hard time at Cromer Park.

It is difficult to see either side scoring many goals despite the position Avala finds itself in. In fact Avala and star striker Filipovic form a hurdle Manly would rather not face.

I fancy Avala to get at least a point.

Sutherland is out of the race for the title but is almost assured of a top-four placing. For Polonia, this is a do or die match.

Polonia has the talent to give Sutherland more than the Sharks will bargain for with Stefan Janic and Andzej Pop.

Polonia's Jurek Drya and Hanjek Sobczyk will have to

overcome the hard working Sutherland midfield if Polonia is to have any chance of snatching both points.

Rockdale Ilinden has an outstanding chance to improve its goal-scoring record against Penrith at Cook Park. Zlatko Nastevski, with his 15-goal tally so far, will be looking forward to a few more in the last round of the Premiership.

Only Don Campbell and Ian Hunter look capable of causing an upset while Edwards, Penrith's custodian, looks likely to be overworked on Sunday afternoon.

"This is war," said Walter Chickman last Sunday in reference to Fairy Meadow's last league encounter against Wollongong Macedonia.

"The season is over now as far as the State League is concerned but this time we are playing our own version of the Grand Final to decide the best league club in Wollongong," he added.

"Idle threats," replied Bob Kezovski, Macedonia's secretary.

"Meadow threatened us last time but we beat them at Corrimal. I see no reason not

to repeat the dose at Berkeley," he said.

Anthony Wellbourne will certainly have much to play for as he gears up for the last league game of the year. He is in line for our Under-21 Player of the Year award.

I fancy a draw but Fairy Meadow does look to have an edge in attack.

VIAL SLAMS THREE, BERTRAM RETIRES

Lenny Vial bagged three goals against Penrith City to spearhead his side to an important victory at Melita Stadium.

Paul McFadden started the rot with two early goals and Vial polished it off with his first goals of the season.



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

Vial provided the spade work for McFadden to net after 11 minutes but Penrith came back after Don Campbell nodded on for Ian Hunter to score in the 17th.

A Ray Farrugia corner kick in the 28th found Kenny Wilson who headed to McFadden who headed past Edwards and gave Melita a 2-1 lead.

Vial scored his first goal after 35 minutes when he chested down a very strong cross by Wayne Farnsworth. The ball came off Vial's chest, off the post and into the net.

Hunter came close to scoring in the 42nd, 56th and 62nd minutes before Melita increased its lead. McFadden played a through ball to Vial who scored in the 63rd minute then four players were involved in a complicated move which led to Birul Serbas putting Vial through to face Edwards and score again.

Tired-looking Penrith could offer little resistance in the closing stages with Melita content to tush the ball about in entertaining fashion.

With 20 minutes of the second half gone, Uruguay struck after Fernando Mosquero broke through to find Alvaro Perdomo who made no mistake. After rounding a defender Perdomo drew out the keeper then lobbed him.

It was a just reward for a side which certainly had more of the play and looked far more determined to succeed.

Macedonia could take little pleasure from its display and the only effort which came close was after 20 minutes with Barry Robinson's header sailing wide.

Macedonia now has lost its chance to make the top four while Uruguay is well clear of the dreaded relegation zone.

sue which has rocked the Ilinden Club. It is expected that Tortevski will be cleared to play in the last round of the Premiership, or at least in the play-offs.

Tortevski was sadly missed as was Jimmy Risteviski.

What a bore!

Freshwater and Sutherland were involved in a dour struggle at Cromer Park last Sunday and neither side deserved to take the points.

Sutherland's usually reliable midfield could not find form while Freshwater had little to offer but its will to survive in the league.

Alex Botalico was instrumental in keeping his side afloat by cleverly holding the ball and distributing passes, while Martin Driene worked tirelessly. Don Smith had a blinder in goal for Freshwater as did Burroughs for Sutherland.

Sutherland had the better of the exchanges for most of the match with its speed and stamina showing out, particularly towards the latter part.

However, neither side showed enough creativity to open up the opponent's defence.



Lenny Vial of Melita Eagles

Air Malta player of the year award

No further list of leading players will be published. The winner will be announced at the "Soccer Action" Player of the Year dinner to be held at the Fraternity club in Fairy Meadow on October 11.

Skypak State League table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELITA EAGLES	10	8	3	41	13	28
MANLY WARR.	10	7	4	25	12	27
ROCK. ILINDEN	11	4	6	34	22	26
SUTHERLAND	10	6	5	25	16	26
Ku-Ring-Gai	8	8	5	21	17	24
Macedonia Woll.	7	9	5	15	14	23
Uruguay	6	9	6	19	22	21
Freshwater	8	4	9	31	33	20
Polonia	6	6	9	28	33	18
Avala	6	5	10	20	31	17
Penrith City	6	2	13	30	54	14
Fairy Meadow	3	2	16	21	43	8

AVALA 1 (Filipovic 30th) POLONIA 0 at Knight Park.

AVALA: Thurlow 7, — Blackburn 7, Brown 7, Steven 8, Divani 7, Blazic 6, Jeffery 6, Filipovic 8, (48th Styamenkovic — 7), — Blagojevic 7, Radak 8, Marini 6 (80th 70th).

POLONIA: Zic 7, — Chou 7, Kulwicki 8, Robertson 7, Pratt 7, — Sobczyk 8, Drys 7, Colluso 6, (Dric 75th), Geeke 6, — Janic 8, Pop 6

MELITA EAGLES 5 (Vial 35th, 63rd, 70th, McFadden 11th, 28th) PENRITH CITY 1 (Hunter 17th) at Melita Stadium.

MELITA: Pappas 7, Williams 7, Wilson 7, McCoy 8, Tredinnick 7, Callanan 7, Farrugia 7, Farnsworth 7, — McFadden 8, Vial 9, Serbas 7.

PENRITH: Edwards 7, — Hutton 6 (Brown 47th — 6), Campbell 7, Hebb 6, Shaw 5 (62nd Marini) — Jameson 6, Thompson 7, Cross 5, — Quarmby 6, Hunter 6, McLeod 5

FAIRY MEADOW 1 (Kirwan 44th), MANLY WARRINGAH 2 (Marshall 11th, McIntosh 38th) at Corrimal Memorial Park.

FAIRY MEADOW: Krajnovic 7, — Maguire 6, Berringer 8, Burleigh 6, Hutton 7, — Durness 7, O'Brien 6 (70th Bell), Cano 7, Marjanovic 8, — Kerr 6, Kirwan 7.

MANLY: Catlin 7, — Dennis 6, Robin 7, Marshall 8, Van Egmond 6, — Etherington 7, Campbell 7, Dean 8, Stuart 7, — McIntosh 7, Davison 6

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 1 (Nastevski 89th) KU-RING-GAI 0 at Hurstville.

ILINDEN: Berry 7, G Wilson 8, Plovski 7, D Wilson 6, Rodas 7, — Degney 6, Jones 7, Nastovski 6, — Nastevski 8, Genovese 7, Grbevski 8.

KURINGAI: Lacey 7, — Kevern 8, Berram 7, Watson 8, Goldsworthy 5, — Groom 6, Sutherland 6, Williamson 6, Quigley 8, — Bass 6 (Ferguson 80th), Nier 7

FRESHWATER 0 SUTHERLAND 0 at Cromer Park.

FRESHWATER: Amth 8, — Cassaccia 6, Sterrey 6, J Botalico 6, Berry 7, — Tkachuk 7, A Botalico 8, Burke 6, Driene 8, — Corrigan 5, Speranza 7 (Duckling 70th).

SUTHERLAND: Burroughs 8, — Sellers 8, Terry 8, Parsons 7, Nelson 7, — Harrington 6, Johnstone 7, Lerond 6, Meades 7 (65th Cashman), — Hill 5 (Sharpe 55th), Hughes 7

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0 URUGUAYAN AU-BURN 1 (Perdomo 55th) at Berkeley Sports Ground.

MACEDONIA: G Robinson 7, — Mauk 6, Tolovski 6, Sweeney 5, — Tustin 7, — Wellbourne 6, Sain 6, Bringham 6, Giraldi 5, — B. Robinson 5, King 5.

URUGUAY: Rosano 7, — Woods 7, Hastie 7, O'Donnell 7, Tomasich 8, Mosquero 6, Genc 8, Cuba 7, — Van Helden 6, Perdomo 8, Carrizo 7 (Piz 80th)

Second Grade results: Melita Eagles — Penrith 4-2, Macedonia — Uruguay 0-5, Fairy Meadow — Manly 2-3, Freshwater — Sutherland 0-0, Ilinden — Kuringai 1-2, Avala — Polonia 3-0.

Third Grade results: Melita Eagles — Penrith 4-2, Macedonia — Uruguay 3-2, Fairy Meadow — Manly 1-9, Freshwater — Sutherland 1-8, Ilinden — Kuringai 9-0, Avala — Polonia 8-1.

3rd Grade standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELITA EAGLES	12	5	4	23	29	33
FRESHWATER	18	5	6	28	25	33
PENRITH CITY	10	4	7	35	24	23
Uruguay	7	4	11	23	28	22
Manly Warringah	7	6	11	24	23	22
Ku-Ring-Gai	9	4	11	31	22	22
Uruguay	7	4	11	23	28	22
Avala	4	8	12	30	55	10
Polonia	3	12	15	30	55	10
Ilinden	4	1	16	29	59	9
Polonia	3	2	16	19	60	8

2nd & 3rd Divisions

Yugal has secured the Second Division title but could remain in the same division despite its success because of the reorganisation of the leagues which is taking place at present.

Second division results: Artarmon-Dee Way 1-1 (last week), Campbelltown-Kingsford 7-0, Queens Park-Dee Why 1-0, Artarmon-Campbelltown 1-0, Gladesville-Lebanon 2-1, Nth Bankstown-Bathurst 2-0, Yugal-Blacktown Utd 1-0.

2nd Division Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
YUGAL	16	2	3	53	20	34
GLADESVILLE	14	3	4	46	17	31
NTH STOWN	13	2	6	35	28	28
KINGSFORD	12	2	5	35	21	27
Blacktown Utd	8	6	7	20	16	21
Dee Why	7	7	8	13	25	22

3rd Division Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GRAN CHILE	12	8	1	45	33	33
ROOY HILL	11	8	2	42	15	30
BONDI MARINE	10	4	6	36	23	28
NTH RYDE RSL	12	2	7	28	26	26
West Utd	10	5	7	27	21	25
Campbelltown	10	4	7	40	19	24
MT DRUITT	9	4	8	28	24	22
Utd of NSW	6	6	10	36	39	18
Baulkham Hills	6	4	11	32	40	16
Port Hacking	5	4	12	27	41	14
Moortbank	5	4	13	18	34	14
Via Tomislav	1	7	15	14	4	4

TNT SKYPAK
THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

NSW SKYPAK STATE LEAGUE

PROGRAMME OF MATCHES

STATE LEAGUE
(Round 22, 7/9/86)

MELITA EAGLES — FRESHWATER, Melita Stadium

URUGUAY — KU-RING-GAI, Mona Park

MANLY WARR. — AVALA, Cromer Park

SUTHERLAND — POLONIA, Seymour Shaw Park

PENRITH — ROCKDALE ILINDEN, Cook Park

FAIRY MEADOW — MACEDONIA, Corrimal Memorial Park

II DIVISION, Saturday, 6.09.86

KINGSFORD — QUEENS PARK, Kensington Oval

Sunday, 7.09.86

CANTERBURY — NTH BANKSTOWN, Blick Oval

LEBANON — YUGAL, Jensen oval

BATHURST — BLACKTOWN UTD, Proctor Park

CAMPBELLTOWN — GLADESVILLE, Lynwood Park

III DIVISION, Saturday, 6.09.86

CAMPBELLTOWN — BAULKHAM HILLS, Bensley Rd

NTH RYDE RSL — WEST UTD, Magdala Park

Sunday, 7.09.86

MT DRUITT — ROOY HILL, Popondetta Park

KING TOMISLAV — PORT HACKING, Croatian S/C

Medon Sports SCOREBOARD

Holland Park 4 4 14 33 70 12 H/Berg Dundero 15 2 25 66 60 10 Brighton 2 3 17 61 63 9									
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**OLYMPIC****AIRWAYS****NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA****SOUTHERN DIVISION—Round 21—7 SEPTEMBER****BRISBANE CITY
v SUN. GEO. CROSS**

Spencer Park
SUNDAY 3pm
YOUTH GAME:
Frankston Pines v Sunshine
GEO. GROSS 12.45 pm

**MARK LENNON****ADELAIDE HELLAS
v MELBOURNE
CROATIA**

Hindmarsh Stadium
SUNDAY 2.30pm
YOUTH GAME:
Brighton v Melbourne Croatia
12.45pm

**GEORGE KONSTANDOPOULOS****GREEN GULLY
v STH. MELB. HELLAS**

Green Gully Reserve
SUNDAY 3pm
YOUTH GAME:
Green Gully v Hellas 12.45pm

**STEVE BLAIR****BRUNSWICK
JUVENTUS
v ADELAIDE JUVENTUS**

Olympic Park No. 1
SUNDAY 3pm
YOUTH GAME:
Juventus v Nunawading City
12.45pm

**ROBBIE CULLEN****HEIDELBERG
ALEXANDER
v BRISBANE LIONS**

Olympic Village
SUNDAY 3pm
YOUTH GAME:
Heidelberg v Fawkner at
12.45pm

**THEO SELEMIDIS****FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.
v PRESTON
MAKEDONIA**

Schintler Reserve
SUNDAY 3pm
YOUTH GAME:
J.U.S.T. v Makedonia 12.45pm

**CON OPASINIS****NORTHERN DIVISION**

Wollongong City v Canberra City
Wollongong Showgrounds, SUNDAY 3pm

Canterbury v Sydney Croatia
Arlington Oval, SUNDAY 3pm

Marconi v Sydney Olympic
Marconi Stadium, SUNDAY 3pm

Inter Monaro v Newcastle
Seiffert Oval, SUNDAY 3pm

Blacktown v A.P.I.A.
Gabbie Stadium, SUNDAY 3pm

St George v Sydney City
St George Stadium, SUNDAY 3pm

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